Welcome to La La Land, the City of Stars!

Join us on Wednesday, May 9 and Thursday, May 10 for the combined 2018 annual meeting of Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) and the Medical Museums Association (MeMA), on the campus of 99-year-old UCLA in Los Angeles, California.

Visitors should anticipate lovely, warm days (low-to-high-70s) and cool nights (50s), perhaps with a little morning/ evening “June gloom” fog or haze (not smog … haze!) and a minimal but non-zero chance of rain. Pack layers, to adjust for cool-to-hot, and you’ll be fine. Don’t forget your hats, shades, and sunscreen.

The Program Committee was flooded with proposals this year as our societies and their combined meeting continue to grow. The meeting program will run a little later (4:15pm) on Thursday and also include a Special Focus workshop on Wednesday afternoon, so most Local Arrangements Committee-organized activities will be scheduled for Wednesday morning or afternoon. Consider coming early (Tuesday night instead of Wednesday morning) and leaving on Friday morning (or on a Thursday late-evening red eye flight). Make your plans now, while airfares are best.

Main Conference Room, UCLA Library Conference Center, in the Charles E. Young Research Library
http://www.library.ucla.edu/destination/library-conference-center
MEETING SITE

The ALHHS/MeMA meeting will convene from 8:00 am to 4:15 pm on Thursday, May 10, in the Main Conference Room in the UCLA Library Conference Center in the Charles E. Young Research Library. The library is about a 15-minute walk from accommodations in the Luskin Center (see below); a Campus Shuttle “BruinBus” has stops one or two blocks from each building and operate from 7 am to 7 pm. A continental breakfast and coffee breaks will be organized adjacent to the conference center.

The nearby Presentation Room will stage boxed lunches, for all attendees to take back into the Main Conference Room and enjoy while the Program Committee gives members an opportunity to make announcements from the podium. The ALHHS Business Meeting will be held in this room, while MeMA members will convene for business in the Presentation Room.

UCLA Faculty Center

WEDNESDAY DINNER

We anticipate using the UCLA Faculty Center's spacious, airy main dining room and its adjacent patio for the annual dinner on Wednesday evening. This will provide ample room for happy hour schmoozing and circulating between tables over dinner. The building is a 15-minute walk across campus from either the Luskin Center or the meeting site; a campus- or meeting-provided shuttle will transport folks who need additional assistance.

A cash bar will be available starting at 7:00 pm, with dinner until 9:30. One or two complimentary wine/beer/soft-drink tickets will be provided for each attendee. The dinner will include a vegetarian option, of course. Attendees should notify us, at registration time, regarding any food allergies or dietary restrictions that would make none of the offered options acceptable.
PRE-CONFERENCE TOURS AND WORKSHOPS

We are organizing several activities for Wednesday, May 9:

- A morning “Behind-the-scenes Tour of History & Special Collections for the Sciences”, the UCLA Library Special Collections division located in the Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library (fee: $0; number of attendees: 15; Wednesday morning, May 9).

- “Tour and Tea at the Museum of Jurassic Technology”: Leaving the Luskin Center at 10:15 Tour from 11:00-1:00; Tea at 1:00; return to the Luskin by 2:30 (fee: $0; number of attendees: 20; Wednesday, May 9). The transportation fee was absorbed with local funding.

- “Tour of the Mildred Mathias Botanical Garden”, profiling the medicinal herbs garden and perhaps including the Herbarium (fee: $0; number of attendees: 15; Wednesday afternoon, May 9).

- Self-guided walking tours of UCLA’s grounds—with specimen trees from around the world, the Franklin D. Murphy Sculpture Garden with blooming jacaranda, and architecture for every taste—may be supplemented with docent-led tours of the Fowler Museum of global arts and cultures, and the dynamic Hammer Museum (a public art unit of the School of Arts and Architecture).

- We regret and apologize that we are unable to organize the special workshop with Ira Rezak, exploring the Ralph R. and Pat N. Sonnenschein Collection of Scientific and Medical Medals, at the Biomedical Library. We are anticipating intrusions from construction of a new special collections classroom, which will make preparations for and hosting of the workshop too uncertain to plan.

When the meeting registration form is available, please select activities that you actually will attend. If your attendance plans change before the conference, let the organizers know so that people on wait lists may be accommodated on tours or in workshops.

All Wednesday tours and workshops will be scheduled to allow attendees to participate in the ALHHS/MeMA Special Focus Workshop hosted by the Program Committee and chaired by member Michelle DiMeeo (Chemical Heritage Foundation): “Library UX 101: Designing a Collections Management System for End Users” (fee: $0; number of attendees: 20; Wednesday afternoon May 9, 3:00-4:30 pm).
POST-CONFERENCE TOURS AND WORKSHOPS

When the ALHHS/MeMA meeting concludes at 4:15 pm on Thursday, May 10, attendees may want to duck downstairs in the Young Research Library to the main Library Special Collections division for our history of medicine exhibit. Due to enduring and extended inaccessibility of half our on-site collection (because of seismic retrofitting and installation of alarms, smoke detectors, and sprinkler pipes), the theme of the exhibit will not be the medicine of “Frankenstein” or World War I medicine or baby record books. Instead, the do-able potpourri of an exhibit will be “Teaching with Rare Materials in the History of Medicine”. By a happy coincidence, this is the topic of several papers in the annual meeting program! So, continue the discussion as you peruse the exhibit!

Librarian emerita and Curator of UCLA Public Art, Victoria (Vicki) Steele, will lead an AAHM tour of the confluence of medicine, art, and Hollywood in the Jules and Doris Stein Eye Institute buildings (fee: $0; number of attendees: 15 to 20; Thursday afternoon, May 10). ALHHS/MeMA folks are welcomed to join the group, which assembles before the end of the ALHHS/MeMA meeting.

University Archivist emerita Charlotte Brown is working to gain entry from 4:30-5:00 or later to the Kleinrock Center for Internet Studies, where the first message on what would become the Internet originated in 1969 (fee: $0; number of attendees: 15 to 20).
ACCOMMODATIONS

Lodging will be at the beautiful new Meyer and Renee Luskin Conference Center hotel (425 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles: http://luskinconferencecenter.ucla.edu/about/), located 12 miles from LAX (Los Angeles International Airport) and 15 miles from Burbank Airport. The hotel is located in the middle of campus, adjacent to Pauley Pavilion (home of Bruins basketball and women’s gymnastics, and one of the sites of the 1984 and 2028 Summer Olympics) and Ackerman Union (the student activities center with a department store, food courts, a post office, and permanently-installed artworks commissioned from students in annual competitions).

AAHM (American Association for the History of Medicine) has negotiated a group rate of $230 per room per night at the Luskin. ALHHS and MeMA members may get this special rate.

Please note that the $230 group rate will NOT be charged any additional transient occupancy tax or sales tax – it is the inclusive rate which one pays. Attendees have until Monday, April 9, 2018 to make their reservations and get this group rate.

The Luskin Conference Center’s reservation system is available to take accommodation reservations. Visit the website at http://lcc.ucla.edu/reserve or call 855-LCC-UCLA (855-522-8252) to make reservations. Use the code “AMER0509” (A-M-E-R-zero-five-zero-nine) to get the “American Association for the History of Medicine” rate. Please note that valid credit card information must be provided to guarantee attendee reservations.

The “AMER0509” accommodation price is good for Wednesday (May 9) through Monday (May 14), if you want to come a little early or stay a little late (even after AAHM).
early (arriving Tuesday, May 8) or staying late (leaving Monday, May 14), we recommend that you telephone the Luskin instead of using the online reservations form!

The ALHHS/MeMA meeting traditionally benefits from the contract that AAHM makes for hotel accommodations. AAHM reached its maximum for Tuesday, May 8 (note that people who already made reservations are fine, your fee is set). We will try to expand the room block -- to get more rooms at $230 apiece for that night -- we are taking a straw poll and get a VERY GOOD COUNT of how many rooms we anticipate needing for ALHHS/MeMA attendees. Otherwise, be advised that the current rate for that night is $279.

Check-in time is 4:00 pm; check-out time is 12:00 noon. Wifi is included. There are no routinely-installed in-room refrigerators, but these may be requested ahead of time for special circumstances (if needed for medications, infant formula, etc.). The bar and restaurant are cashless, credit-card-only facilities; there are no cash concessions on-site.

In Spring 2018, UCLA will celebrate 5 years as a tobacco/smoke/vapor-free campus, and continues to be cannabis-free (both smoking and edibles). Please be advised that this applies to all indoor and outdoor areas, including the Luskin Conference Center patios and sidewalks. This “Breathe Well” program is part of the UCLA Healthy Campus Initiative.
GETTING HERE

LAX (Los Angeles International Airport) is a hub or direct-flight destination for more airlines than we can count. The advantage, coming to a conference on the west coast, is that you will have tailwinds in both directions. But, seriously – it’s not the best, but is a good airport that is getting better.

Leaving baggage claim areas on the Arrivals (lower) level, you will find taxicabs (around $40 to $50 per ride) and shared vans such as SuperShuttle and PrimeTime curbside at the closest curb. Look for color-coded signs on the outer curb (be sure to cross only in crosswalks; jaywalking tickets may be issued) for: FlyAway shuttle ($10 one-way, credit card only, arriving at Lot 32 in Westwood Village, about a 6 block walk to the Luskin); Rental Car shuttle vans and buses; and Lot C or Lot G (Green Line) shuttle. See more detailed instructions for Uber and Lyft.
The most economical transportation: take the Lot G shuttle at the LAX Courtesy Shuttle stop to the Aviation Green Line (Metro) station (its only stop). From there, ride Culver City bus #6 or #Rapid 6 ($1.00) to its final destination, one block away from the Luskin! To return to LAX, take the same Culver City bus line to the City Bus Terminal (en route to the Green Line station); walk next door to the LAX “Lot C” Shuttle, and ride the free shuttle to the upper (Departures) level at your airline’s terminal.

We do not recommend getting a rental car if you are in town for only one or two nights for the ALHHS/MeMA meeting, unless you have an Accompanying Person who will use it to get around. Parking is at the Luskin or next door in Parking Structure 8, Level 4. See driving and parking directions for the Luskin Center.

**GETTING AROUND**

L.A.’s public transit systems are working to meet the needs of residents and visitors. A walk of a few blocks from the Luskin Center gets you to the stop for Los Angeles Metro Bus 234, which goes past the Getty Center and Museum stop on its way to the San Fernando Valley. Take a relatively short bus ride southbound (Culver City #6, or Santa Monica/Big Blue Bus #Rapid 12 directly opposite the Luskin Center in the Gateway Plaza bus turnaround) from the UCLA campus to the Westwood/Rancho Park Expo Line station on the Metro rail system, from which you may use a transfer or buy a pass to connect to go west to Santa Monica Pier, beach, and restaurants; or east to Exposition Park’s Museums (Natural History and California Science Center) and the main campus of University of Southern California (USC). Transfers on Metro rail and subway lines lead all the way to Pasadena’s Old Town, East Los Angeles, and even the Long Beach Aquarium.

We are investigating the particulars of the new campus and community bicycle renting/sharing programs and will have this information available on the conference website.

**A FOODIE CITY**

*Food Bowl*, organized by the *Los Angeles Times*, will return for a second year in May, 2018 as “a month-long festival celebrating the Los Angeles region’s dynamic and influential food scene. The festival will bring together the best in local dining experiences while promoting social awareness about food waste and hunger.” Local restaurants, food trucks, farmers’ markets, and pop-up events will host special menus and cooking & tasting programs to celebrate the diversity and abundance of California produce and products. Love him or hate him, foodies use Jonathan
Gold’s reviews to find interesting and unusual eating experiences. Within Westwood Village itself, the business neighborhood adjacent to UCLA, highly-rated Italian, Indian, Korean, Chinese, Brazilian, Mexican, Californian, vegetarian, sushi, and seafood restaurants offer many choices for your daily dining.

FROM DUDAMEL TO DISNEYLAND

From The Getty Museum and Research Institute (near UCLA) and Villa (on the coast) … to the Griffith Observatory (think Rebel Without a Cause) in the Hollywood Hills … to the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum, Petersen Automotive Museum, and LACMA (Los Angeles County Museum of Art in mid-Wilshire) … to Gustavo Dudamel’s Los Angeles Philharmonic at downtown’s Disney Hall, we hope you will enjoy some of the many venues, activities, and experiences that Los Angeles has to offer. To help you create the best itinerary for your visit, we recommend going to the online visitor’s guide website (http://www.discoverlosangeles.com). This comprehensive guide is a great way to find out about L.A. (and Southern California) museums, cultural sites, theaters and concert halls, tours, amusement parks, restaurants, L.A. heritage neighborhoods, and so much more.

We surveyed friends and colleagues, asking, “What is the one thing a visitor must see/do while in Los Angeles/Southern California?” In addition to the answers we just noted (above), consider:

- The Beach and Ocean: from the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach (accessible by metro via the Expo Line to the Blue Line) to cycling/skating the “boardwalks” of Manhattan Beach (think La La Land) and Venice Beach, to sticking a toe into the surf near Santa Monica Pier or at Paradise Cove in Malibu
- Disneyland (Anaheim)
- Universal Studios Hollywood, with a reinvigorated tram tour and the extraordinary Wizarding World of Harry Potter
- Take a super-touristy Star Tours van or bus ride
- Tickets to Jimmy Kimmel or The Late, Late Show with James Corden
- Make a pilgrimage to the hand-and-footprints at Grauman’s Theatre (i.e., TCL Chinese Theater) on Hollywood Boulevard
- La Plaza de Cultura y Artes for Los Angeles history; then hit the Central Library, The Broad (a museum, pronounced “brode”), the Japanese American National Museum, Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angeles, Disney Hall, and other downtown sites
- Watts Towers of Simon Rodia (Expo Line to the Blue Line)
- Dodgers baseball (at home vs. the Arizona Diamondbacks on May 8th and 9th, Cincinnatti Reds on May 10th-13th)
• *Los Angeles Times* columnist Charles Fleming’s *Secret Stairs* (“a walking and hiking guide to the hidden public staircases of Los Angeles”) and *L.A. Walks*

• Again, the *Los Angeles Times*: “36 Hours in Los Angeles”

• Parks and Gardens: *Virginia Robinsons Gardens* (a mansion and gardens in Beverly Hills), *Self-Realization Fellowship Lake Shrine* (take the #2 Metro bus on Sunset Boulevard), *Will Rogers State Historic Park, Temescal Canyon State Park*, … and don’t even get us started on Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Joshua Tree National Park, and the gazillion other destinations in southern California …

Interested in an “edgier” presentation and tour of historical Los Angeles? Check out [www.esotouric.com](http://www.esotouric.com), hosted by two of the best local historians currently in Southern California. With a wealth of knowledge of L.A. history, coupled with spicy back-stories, they provide narrated bus tours of Los Angeles and neighboring cities; or, as their website states, “Bus Adventures into the secret heart of Los Angeles.” If the unusual and sublime are more your cup of tea, then *Atlas Obscura/Los Angeles* ([http://www.atlasobscura.com/things-to-do/los-angeles-california](http://www.atlasobscura.com/things-to-do/los-angeles-california)) is for you.

An unconventional, artistically-posed skeleton from Jacques Gamelin’s *Nouveau recueil d’ostéologie et de myologie: dessiné d’après nature* (Toulouse: J.F. Desclassan, 1779)

History & Special Collections for the Sciences, UCLA Library Special Collections
MULTI-TASKING

Double-down and make your conference travel into a research trip, too. Use the Online Archive of California (http://oac.cdlib.org) to access more than 20,000 “collection guides to unlock archive, library, and museum doors” throughout the state. Plan to visit ALHHS/MeMA members (according to the 2017 Directory, one-tenth of ALHHS members live in California!) at the University of Southern California (USC), City of Hope, and Loma Linda University. Go further afield to repositories at UC Santa Barbara, UC Berkeley, Stanford University, or UC San Francisco. Think outside the box and explore holdings at UCLA’s Film & Television Archives or California State University/Northridge’s Urban Archives Collection. Explore the possibilities of giving pre- or post-conference talks around town. Visit local bookstores (Los Angeles does still have some!) and antiquarian booksellers, and build your personal, working, and institutional libraries!

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE

What would make your (and your Accompanying Persons’!) visit to Los Angeles more memorable and complete? Group admissions to museums? Maps to urban walking and exercise trails? A reserved walking tour of Sony Pictures Studio, the home of Jeopardy! (which, we regret to report, does not tape in May)? We’re organizing the Sony tour for AAHM, and spots will be available! Let us (rjohnson@library.ucla.edu) know, in advance, what you need or what you want (and whom you know or could recommend to help).

CITY OF ANGELS

Registration fees typically offset most but not all of the costs of staging an annual meeting. Your Local Arrangements Committee is very fortunate to have significant support from the Library and individual emerite/i members to help make the ALHHS/MeMA meeting comfortable and successful.

Of course, the most important factor always is you, our members. Come to the City of Angels in May, 2018 and enjoy your annual meeting!

Russell A. Johnson
for the 2018 ALHHS/MeMA Local Arrangements Committee