Newsletter of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences

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### The Path to History

By Lucretia W. McClure and Jonathon Erlen

The colorful stage is set: the camera ready. The individuals take their places and the director gives the signal to begin videotaping "The History of Western Medicine." This scene in the studio at the University of South Carolina took place on September 22, 1997, but the planning for this event and the educational activities that were to follow had begun more than a year earlier. First via phone conversations and correspondence and then during a long working weekend meeting in Columbia, SC, the trio met to begin planning the first major distance learning course to be offered on the history of medicine. The players were Jonathon Erlen, Ph.D., History of Medicine Librarian at the Falk Library of the Health Sciences, University of Pittsburgh, and Lucretia W. McClure, M.A., Librarian Emerita, Edward G. Miner Library, University of Rochester Medical Center and consultant to the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and Dan Barron, Ph.D., Professor at the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science.

Throughout the 1990s various forms of distance learning have merged as a means for subject experts to share their knowledge with a wide flung, at times, isolated student population. These educational programs have ranged from beginning freshmen survey courses in colleges to doctoral level course work, to hands-on workshops in telemedicine. A search run in the LISA database for the years 1969-1999 retrieves 350 items under the search term "distance learning." Thus library science has and continues to make extensive use of this new teaching methodology. By the late 1990s the time was right to create such an offering covering the history of medicine.

The School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina had received a National Library of Medicine Education and Training of Health Science Librarians Challenge Grant to create new distance learning educational opportunities in this subject area. One of the suggestions for this new course was in the area of the history of medicine. Many librarians in hospital or general libraries have no training in history, yet often receive questions of a historical nature. They often have no experience in either the subject matter or the reference tools in this medical specialty. The plan for this course was to introduce participants to the resources found in their own libraries that can be used to answer questions in the history of medicine.

During the initial meeting at the University of South Carolina in 1996, Erlen, McClure, and Barron created the learning objectives for this course and determined that it would be offered as a four-part, one-month long learning activity. Several different teaching tools would be utilized. An introductory videotape would present the broad scope of the evolution of Western history of medicine. Specific questions and materials to support the work required by the course were placed on a Web page. Finally, students would interact with the faculty and each other via e-mail. Only those who had ready access to the Internet and e-mail services could participate. Students completing the course requirements would receive continuing education credits from the Medical Library Association.

McClure created the title for this course: Developing a Confident Path: Finding Information Related to the History of Medicine. She believed the title reflected the overall goals of the course: to awaken in the participants an interest in the history of medicine

and to direct students to identify and use the varied reference sources in their own libraries and beyond to find answers to historical questions.

The hour-long videotape served as the introduction to the course. It was researched and written by Erlen, with considerable assistance from Ed Breland who served as director of the video. The purpose of this introduction was to highlight some of the major events in medical history, emphasizing the continuity in significant aspects of the subject so that the viewers would not see them as isolated facts. Thus particular emphasis was placed on topics such as epidemics and the doctor/patient relationship. This well-produced videotape contained many illustrations. Each of the sections of the video began with a series of images, with a professional narrator explaining the meaning of the illustrations. Following each segment, the panel of Erlen and McClure speaking as subject experts and Barron serving as moderator, briefly discussed the major themes depicted and how they related to modern medical practices.

Two unusual features defined the course. First, students were encouraged to communicate electronically with each other and to share information about both the process they used to find answers to their homework assignments as well as the answers to the questions. Students were not to seek direct assistance from either Erlen or McClure, the course faculty. In hindsight, this may have been a mistake as it limited some of the potential learning experience for the students. This format resulted in the students teaching each other, with no overview by the faculty.

The second feature was defining the "confident path" for the students. When carrying out their assignments they were instructed to use the following outline:

- 1. Document each source used and indicate whether or not it contained material that could answer the question.
- 2. In answering the questions, the participants were first to use resources found in their own libraries, consulting books, journals, encyclopedias, dictionaries, M e d l i n e / Histline, and the library's own catalog.
- 3. After exhausting in-house resources, the participants were to seek assistance at a nearby library with history of medicine resources.
- 4. Students were then to broaden their search by using the resources of major universities, regional medical libraries, and the National Library of Medicine.
- 5. The final step was using the Internet. One goal of the course was to encourage the participants to use the Internet only after they had tried the other avenues for reference sources. It was important for the students to explore the resources as a means of becoming acquainted with the tools in their own and other libraries. The Internet has many Web sites, but many are not reliable.

The four sessions in the course were designed with the "confident path" in mind in addition to offering the typical questions received relating to history.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS The Path to History 1 MLA BibKit 4 Some Culture with Your Cadaver? Or No Viscera on the Versalius 4 5 The Rhazes Manuscript at the Reynolds Library 7 AAHM and ALHHS Annual Meetings Ex Libris 9 News from HMD 13 News from The Wellcome Library 14 **Obituaries** 15 From the 'NET 17

- 1. Week 1: Biographical questions (who)
- 2. Week 2: Discovery (when and where)
- 3. Week 3: Illustrative (what)
- 4. Week 4: In-depth questions (combination)

The questions for each session were placed on the Course Web Page with the instruction that students document the sources and the process they used and submit their answers to the listsery for other students to review. In an informal telephone survey of the participants following the first presentation of the course, a frequent comment was that not all participants shared their findings. The course faculty were not actively involved in evaluating these answers, nor did they give guidance to the students. No standards were established for correct answers, thus some students did much more work that did others while receiving the same credit. It was also clear from the comments that many believed one week was insufficient time for busy librarians to answer the questions completely, especially the open-ended ones.

There were a number of reasons why students chose to enroll in the course. Many, of course, wanted to learn about the history of medicine, commenting that they did get history-related questions from their patrons from time to time. Others said they needed to be forced to learn about the potential history of medicine resources in their own libraries. Several from isolated libraries welcomed the opportunity to learn from subject experts and to interact with others with similar interests without having to travel long distances at great expense. This last point supports the greatest strength of distance learning. Some participants like the idea of being able to acquire CE credit from the Medical Library Association without having to attend conferences. With limited travel budgets the need for CE credit may be a major selling point for distance learning activities.

The information given the course participants included a list of resources in the history of medicine, some of which should have been in their libraries. Students considered the list one of the strengths of the class as they could use the bibliographic resources in the future to build their reference collections. Students also enjoyed the video, using Histline, and the opportunity to learn in a self-directed mode by seeking answers in a field outside their own expertise.

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It would be interesting to do a follow-up phone discussion with these students several years hence to see if they were able to effectively use the new information they gained from this course in dealing with their patrons.

Responses to the evaluation distributed at the end of the course were uniformly positive, leading to the course being offered a second time in September, 1998. Again, the course was taught without the direct participation of the faculty with the students. When the course is offered in the future, the faculty would recommend changing this approach. The course would benefit from direct and frequent interaction between professor and student as well as among all the students. Additional structure is needed in determining how the answers are formulated and reported.

Distance learning can be a valid and enjoyable mode of encouraging the study of the history of medicine. The creators of the program hope it is just the start of a series of activities utilizing the wonders in the history of medicine collections along with the magic of the Internet.

#### **MLA BibKit**

A new BibKit on the History of the Health Sciences has just been published by the Medical Library Association. Compiled by Stephen J. Greenberg of the National Library of Medicine and Patricia E. Gallagher of The New York Academy of Medicine, this publication is designed to assist librarians faced with historical questions, whether or not they have access to a large historical collection. The BibKit includes a selection of ready-reference works, chapters on primary and secondary sources, and on links to Web-based information. Included are references to histories of diseases, major discoveries and the specialties, 150 key works in the history of the health sciences, and links to databases of images, journal articles and e-texts, as well as to major history of the health sciences library collections. The BibKit is on sale through MLA. For more information, visit MLANet at <a href="http://www.mlanet.org/publications/kits/">http://www.mlanet.org/publications/kits/</a> bibkits.html>.

### Some Culture with Your Cadaver? Or No Viscera on the Vesalius

By Joan Echtenkamp Klein Assistant Director for Historical Collections University of Virginia Health Sciences Library, UVA

On Tuesday, November 24, 1998 the first-year medical students in Barry Hinton's Gross and Developmental Anatomy course, head and neck unit, learned something about comparative anatomy. This particular lesson, however, was solely concerned with human anatomy. The exercise involved time travel as well as cadavers. The anatomy students were able to compare their late twentieth-century cadavers with sixteenth-and eighteenth century anatomists' views of the human body's muscles and skeleton.

The students in the lab were able to look at and

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touch these rare books and see how anatomists and artists living hundreds of years ago viewed the human body. Fundamentally, across time, not that much has changed. The head and neck drawings in Vesalius' monumental work look very similar to what the students had just seen with their own eyes.

One of the differences wrought by time, the students noticed, was handwriting styles. The Eustachi volume is composed of plates, text, and blank pages. The blank pages were for medical students to copy their notes from their classes in, for example, head and neck dissection. As the students carefully rewrote their notes nearly three hundred years ago, they would review the lesson, and enhance their learning experience. While it is impossible to know for certain that this theory worked and that the students using this method received higher grades, the students' handwriting is worthy of an A+!

The anatomical plates in the books by Vesalius, Eustachi, and Albinus beautifully capture the marriage of anatomists and artists in the Renaissance and the later Age of Enlightenment. The human figure is rendered not only with accuracy of detail, but further imbued with artistic genius. Vesalius, the founder of modern anatomy, worked with the school of Titian, the eminent Renaissance artist, to create the elegant woodblock prints in *De humani corporis fabrica*. These anatomical masterpieces from the Library's Historical Collections exemplify the Jeffersonian ideal of the union of science and art.

This was the second year that the treasures from Historical Collections have made the road trip from the library to the cadaver lab. Judging from the enthusiastic response both years, the trek through Jordan will be made in future years as well. The students and instructors in Gross and Developmental Anatomy have a rare opportunity to see the works so pivotal to the history of the discipline and to, literally, touch the past. The Historical Collections and Services librarian has the extraordinary gift of interacting with students at the beginning of their medical education and showing them the giants upon whose shoulders they stand, and just how shoulders looked to these seminal anatomists in the 1500s and 1700s.

Reprinted with permission from *Inside Information*, the newsletter of The Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, University of Virginia

### The Rhazes Manuscript at the Reynolds Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham

By Michael A. Flannery Associate Director for Historical Collections Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences University of Alabama at Birmingham

At the Reynolds Library of UAB is a unique manuscript translation of the Rhazes' al-Mansur. When Dr. Lawrence Reynolds (namesake of the library) purchased it from the New York rare book dealer Henry Schuman in 1954, he knew he had a rare and special find. The text itself represents the work of Tobiel ben Samuel, a physician of Coimbra, Portugal,

who gave this Hebrew rendering from the Latin commentary of the famous Montpellier university professor, Gerard de Solo. It represents one of the three known translations of the *al-Mansur*, although this one is unique in that it has a true title page rather than the usual colophon. It is also the only known copy to have the preface and beginning matter preserved. As such, it gives us what little we know of Tobiel, who states in his introduction that he was a physician who studied under Moses de Liera, also of Portugal.

It is known that de Solo's Latin translation was completed in Montpellier in 1344, and Tobiel finished his Hebrew rendering in Coimbra in 1388. The manuscript itself then takes on a rather interesting life of its own. Jay Rovner, scholar at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York who examined the manuscript for the Reynolds Library, suggests that the manuscript was copied in the Iberian peninsula, and with the expulsion of the Jews from that region in the 1490s the manuscript was taken to Constantinople by a physician where it was bound around 1516. Rovner also indicates that the manuscript may well have spent some time in Italy "where the pointing fingers were added."

The entire manuscript itself comprises 12 quires of leaves consisting of paper with some parchment. It is illuminated with the initial word and section titles primarily in purple designs. Also, the manuscript includes some highly stylized animal and human figures, one of which includes a man and woman dressed in fifteenth-century Spanish or Portuguese costumes.

Of course the significance of the manuscript resides not so much in its age and provenance as in the nature of the material itself and its role in the cultural and intellectual history of the period. In the seventh and eighth centuries A.D. the disintegration of Greco-

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Roman civilization was complete and scientific inquiry thoroughly transferred to the Arab world. At this time, as historian George Sarton puts it, "The Arabs were standing on the shoulders of their Greek forerunners just as the Americans are standing on the shoulders of their European ones." Despite the European loss of cultural and scientific learning, the Arabs took inherited knowledge and made real and significant advances. One of the true leaders in that endeavor was al-Razi, generally referred to as Rhazes.

Rhazes' dates are not precisely known: some scholars such as William H. Brock give 850 to ca. 923 A.D., while the historian/pharmacist Charles LaWall dates his birth as early as 841. Born near Teheran, Rhazes appears to have devoted his entire life to scientific inquiry. Rhazes has nearly 250 works to his credit. His Continens Rhazes (originally Kitabal-hawi) presents a complete review and interpretation of ancient Greek medicine and gives one of the earliest descriptions of measles and small pox. Perhaps his most famous work, however, is his Secret of Secrets in which he gave systematic attention to basic chemical operations. Indeed, Brock calls it "a straightforward manual of chemical practice." In it Rhazes classified materials; described distillation, sublimation, and calcination processes; established procedures for purification, separation, and the mixing of substances. By following Rhazes' instructions Europeans were able to prepare pure sulfuric and other important acids. Of course it would be incorrect to view even Rhazes' chemistry as anything approximating our own; any review of the writings of Paracelsus (1493-1541) on the subject centuries later shows how far scientific chemistry had to go to liberate itself from mystery and superstition. But Rhazes' writings on the subject represented substantive advances in the field.

Rhazes' work in chemistry redounded to the credit of medical practice, and he often cited Oribasius, the third-century Greek commentator on Galen, for much of his commentary on drugs. Rhazes is said to have introduced mercurial ointments into the Western world and developed apparatus used in apothecaries up through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: mortars and pestles, flasks, spatulas, beakers, phials, and glass vessels.

Later investigators, like the great physician Avicenna (980-1037), would carry Rhazes' work forward in developing simple and composite drugs. The *al-Mansuri* (especially the ninth book) of Rhazes became a standard text for students during and after

the Renaissance. Primarily covering therapeutics, it was considered of sufficient importance to receive the attention of the renowned anatomist Andreas Vesalius (1514-1564).

Its grandiose title Exposition of the ninth part of Rhazes (dealing with) the diseases from head to foot form an almost humorous juxtaposition with today's medical specialization. Nonetheless, it is particularly interesting as a clear example of the transference of scientific knowledge from the Arab to European world via the scholarly efforts of the physician Gerard de Solo from Portugal and his Hebrew counterpart Tobiel ben Samuel.

This manuscript itself is an important symbol of the Jewish contribution to scholarship and its role in the progress of science and learning. This point has been summed up best by Jay Rovner: "It is a fine example of the Jewish dedication to knowledge in its broadest sense, and the pursuit of knowledge: to learn from the most advanced teachings of the world around and make it available to others. Jews were renowned in the transfer ('translation' in all senses) of wisdom from one cultural setting to another... In the case of the present MS, Jewish physicians were reaping some of the benefits of the transfer of medical knowledge from the Islamic world (Rhazes' *al-Mansur*) to the Christian one (Solo's *Commentary*)."

Well aware of its responsibility to care for and preserve this exceptional historical treasure, the Reynolds Library currently has the manuscript



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undergoing treatment at the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, Massachusetts.

Those interested in reading more about the Rhazes manuscript as well as seeing some images of the text should go to the Web prepared by Faye Harkins at <a href="https://www.uab.edu/reynolds/rhazes.html">www.uab.edu/reynolds/rhazes.html</a>.

## AAHM 73rd Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD May 18-21, 2000

For further information, contact:

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## ALHHS Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD May 17-18, 2000

#### LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

Stephen Greenberg, Chair of the ALHHS Local Arrangements Committee, reports on the current plans for the annual meeting:

On Wednesday night, May 17, the ALHHS dinner will be at the Bethesda Naval Club at the National Naval Medical Center (across the street from NLM). There will be a choice of three entrees (meat, fish, and vegetarian) and a cash bar.

Thursday's program (after a continental breakfast) will be in the Lister Hill Auditorium at NLM. Lunch will be available at the cafeteria of the new NIH Natcher Conference Center, located next to NLM. In the afternoon, participants will have a choice of three concurrent tours: an HMD treasure tour, a behind-the-scenes tour of the Smithsonian Institution's History of Medicine Collection (organized by Judy Chelnick), and a tour of the National Museum of Health and Medicine at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (led by Michael Rhode).

Additional information will be included in the ALHHS registration package.

\* \* \*

From Thomas Horrocks, Chair of the ALHHS Program Committee, comes the following report:

#### **ALHHS 2000 PROGRAM**

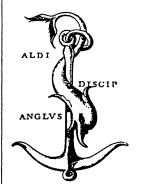
#### **Alone Together:**

Managing History of Medicine Collections in Nonhistorical Environments

Many ALHHS members work as archivists or special collections librarians in hospitals or medical schools. Many either work alone or they are the only professional on a staff of two or three in an archives or special collections department, and some report not to librarians but to development officers or public relations specialists in their parent institutions. They are responsible for reference, cataloging, conservation, and exhibits and often they are the lone voice-and one seldom heard at the decision-making table—for their program within their institutions. Few archives and special collections programs are adequately funded, but the situation in the health sciences is more acute. During the last decade or so several archives and special collections departments in hospitals and medical schools have experienced severe budget cuts. Some programs have been shut down. While the financial implications of recent trends in medicine

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have exacerbated this situation, the ahistorical culture that pervades most hospitals and medical schools is the major hurdle faced by our colleagues in their attempts to keep programs alive and well.

This year's program will consist of a panel discussion on this important topic. The panel is comprised of an archivist, three special collections librarians, and an historian of medicine who has been actively involved with a special collections program. Each panelist has been associated with their respective institutions for ten years or more and has experienced success as well as frustration. Despite years of experience dealing with inadequate resources and administrators who have little regard for history, each has created a record of achievement of which they can be proud. By addressing specific issues dealing with archives and special collections in the health sciences from the perspective of their own experiences, each panelist will provide invaluable advice and guidance to ALHHS members who are working in similar environments, especially those members who are new to their positions.

#### **PANEL:**

Billie Broaddus Director, Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center University of Cincinnati Medical Center

Katharine E.S. Donahue Head, History & Special Collections Louise Darling Biomedical Library, UCLA

Joan Echtenkamp Klein Assistant Director for Historical Collections University of Virginia Health Sciences Library, UVA

Adele Lerner

Archivist, New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center New York Presbyterian Hospital

Steven J. Peitzman, M.D. Professor of Medicine and Archives Historian MCP Hahnemann University

#### **MODERATOR:**

Thomas Horrocks
Associate Director for Special Collections & Curator of Rare Books
Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine,
Harvard University

## CALL FOR HOLLOWAY AWARD NOMINATIONS

The ALHHS Awards Committee is seeking nominations for the Lisabeth M. Holloway Award which recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions through leadership and/or service to the Association. The award is named in honor of Ms. Holloway, a founder of the Association, who served as President Pro Tem in 1975 and as editor of *The Watermark* for many years. The winner will be announced and the award presented during the annual meeting to be held this year in Bethesda, MD, on May 18, 2000.

The deadline for nominations is February 14, 2000. Please submit a one-to-two-page letter describing the nominee's outstanding professional achievements to: Suzanne Porter, Curator, History of Medicine

Collections, Duke University Medical Center Library, Box 3702, Durham, NC 27710. FAX (919) 681-7599. E-mail: Porte004@mc.duke.edu. The Committee may seek additional information as needed on a nominee.

#### **EX LIBRIS**

By Lucretia W. McClure

#### **WELCOME**

To Rachel Baittinger on her appointment as Archivist at the Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston. She is a graduate of the College of Charleston and served as an archives intern at the South Carolina Historical Society while in college. She has been an archives assistant at Hagley Museum and Library in Wilmington, Delaware, a business and technology archives/museum, the site of the original duPont powder mills. She also was employed as an archives assistant in the Special Collections Department at the College of Charleston where she worked on the Jewish Heritage Project and Exhibit and at the main library of the Medical University of South Carolina.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

To the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library at the University of Virginia upon receipt of the prestigious award from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Library was selected as one of 50 institutions and the only health sciences library to receive an IMLS award. The grant, in the amount of \$250,041, will be used to digitize, arrange, describe, preserve and provide access via the Internet to the 30,000 pages of manuscript material and 1,000 photographs from the extensive Philip S. Hench

Walter Reed Yellow Fever Collection. The project will provide a model for the integration of state-of-theart, standards-compliant information technology and scholarly resources to make unique library resources more widely available.

The work of the U.S. Army Yellow Fever Commission of 1900-1901 is the core of the Yellow Fever Collection. The Commission, headed by Major Walter Reed, an 1869 graduate of the University of Virginia School of Medicine, made a dramatic discovery and achieved a breakthrough in medicine for which Reed was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. At experimental stations just outside Havana, Major Walter Reed and the other members of the Yellow Fever Commission proved that the Aedes aegypti mosquito was the vector for the yellow fever virus.

Examples of materials from the Philip S. Hench Walter Reed Yellow Fever Collection can be viewed in an online exhibit, *The United States Army Yellow Fever Commission and the Spanish-American War: Science and Politics in Latin America, 1898-1904* <a href="http://www.med.virginia.edu/hs-library/historical/yelfev/tabcon.html">http://www.med.virginia.edu/hs-library/historical/yelfev/tabcon.html</a>>.

IMLS is a federal grantmaking agency located in Washington, DC, that fosters leadership, innovation and a lifetime of learning by supporting museums and libraries.

Editor's Note: The November 15 issue of *Link*, the newsletter of the UVA Health System, carries a splendid front-page article on Joan Echtenkamp Klein and the news of this award. The story describes the award, provides information on the new quarters for the historical collections, and makes clear Joan's innovations and accomplishments.

\* \* \*

And to the Scott Memorial Library of Thomas Jefferson University which recently received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. The grant provides funds to hire a Project Archivist to process, arrange, and describe the papers of the Solis-Cohen family located in Jefferson's University Archives and Special Collections Department. At 110 linear feet, the Solis-Cohen family papers is the largest collection



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of manuscript materials held by the Archives. It is also the largest collection of Solis-Cohen materials in the Philadelphia area. Dating from the early 1850s through 1960, the collection documents over 100 years of one of the most significant eras in the history of medicine through the papers of one of the most prominent Jewish families in the Philadelphia area. The materials mainly focus on the education, professional career, and medical practice of Dr. Jacob daSilva Solis-Cohen and his son, Dr. Myer Solis-Cohen. For additional information, contact University Archivist Beth Bensman at (215) 503-8097 or mailto: beth. bensman@mail.tju.edu.

#### **ON EXHIBIT**

The Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences and the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Department of Art and Art History are pleased to announce a unique exhibit, *Interface: Doctors Who Make Art*. The exhibit runs from November 5 to December 29 and is free and open to the public. For more information, call (205) 934-4475.

The New York Academy of Medicine Library announces an exhibit, *A Telling of Wonders: Teratology in Western Medicine*, on display in the Main Reading Room of the Library from November 1 through February 15, 2000.

\* \* \*

The exhibit explores how physicians and philosophers have perceived the exceptional and how they have intertwined different interpretations in their representations and explanations of wonders. Drawing from the extensive collections of the Library, the richly-illustrated exhibit includes pamphlets, extremely rare broadsides, and significant books in the history of teratology.

For more information, please contact Caroline Duroselle-Melish at (212) 822-7310.

#### **GOOD LISTENING**

Lois R. Densky-Wolff, head of Special Collections at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, presented a slide presentation, "From Amulets to Zodiac Man: History Resources at UMDNJ," at the October 27 meeting of the Medical History Society of New Jersey. The presentation offered a virtual tour of the department, revamped in 1997, and an overview of the collections.

\* \* \*

The Reynolds Historical Library at the University of Alabama at Birmingham will hold the fourth of its Reynolds Lectures for the 1999-2000 series on February 24. The speaker will be Lucretia McClure presenting "The Two Georges: George Hoyt Whipple, M.D. and George Eastman of Kodak." The lecture, held in the Ireland Room of the Lister Hill Library at 4:30 p.m., is free and open to the public. For more information call (205) 934-4475.

\* \* \*

The Waring Library Society sponsored a lecture, "Plantation and Slave Medicine in South Carolina," by Edward Ball, author of *Slaves in the Family*, a 1998 National Book Award winner, on November 16.

\* \* \*

The UCLA Programs in Medical Classics is a series of presentations designed to enhance an appreciation of the links among famous medical writings, clinical practice, basic research and humanistic scholarship. The following lectures are scheduled through January:

November 16: Dora B. Weiner, Ph.D., Professor of the Medical Humanities and History, UCLA, speaking on "Observe and Heal: Philippe Pinel (1745-1826) and the Beginnings of a Comprehensive Medicine of Mind and Body."

December 7: Lawrence Kruger, Ph.D., Professor of Neurobiology Emeritus, UCLA, speaking on "The Comparative Anatomy of the Brain in the 17th Century: From Religious Anthropocentricity to Systematic Biology."

January 18: Heinrich von Staden, Ph.D., Professor of Ancient Greek Culture and Science, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, speaking on "Give Me Your Hand, and Let Me Feel Your Pulse: The Hellenistic Origins of a Clinical Revolution."

The Medical Classics lectures bring together a convivial group of individuals of scholarly tastes, both from the community and from the UCLA faculty, students, and staff, to read, discuss and examine texts that embody advances in medicine and in the relationship of medicine to broader cultural settings. This series marks the 17th season of lectures.

#### **GIFTS OF NOTE**

The Special Collections Department of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey announces a significant gift in the history of neurology and neurosurgery. The gift of nearly 300 rare and out-of-print books was presented by Henry R. Liss, M.D., a retired neurosurgeon from Summit, NJ.

The Liss collection includes anatomy, neurology, neurosurgery, and surgery texts of the 18th-20th centuries, with some books dating from the 16th and 17th centuries. Many important titles are included—the first English edition of Linnaeus' fourteen-volume work, A Genuine and Universal System of Natural History (1803), with 425 hand-colored plates, and Samuel George Morton's Crania Americana: A Comparative View of Skulls of Various Aboriginal Nations of North and South America (1839). Other works in the gift include those by such distinguished physicians as Cooper, Cushing, Dorsey, Hahnemann, Hippocrates, Laennec, Morgagni, Osler and von Haller. The collection contains both original and facsimile editions.

#### PRESERVATION NEWS

The Archives of the New York University School of Medicine has completed a preservation project funded by the New York State Discretionary Grant Program for the Conservation and Preservation of Library Materials.

The project provided for microfilming 117 bound volumes of theses, handwritten by senior students of the Bellevue Hospital Medical College as requirements for graduation. The theses range in date from 1862 to 1879. As historical objects, they are a rare example of handwritten dissertations from a period when the practice of most institutions was to print and bind such material. They are equally as

valuable for research, both for researchers interested in genealogy and for those exploring the history of medicine and medical education in the United States during the 19th century. The collection includes the theses of Charles A. Leale, who attended President Lincoln in his box the night he was shot at the Ford Theatre, of Walter Reed, who discovered the transmission of Yellow Fever by the mosquito, and of the noted John Harvey Kellogg.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Frances R. Overcash, Archivist at Children's Hospital, Boston, announces the formation of a new professional organization, The Medical Archivists Group, for medical archivists in New England. The group is open to archivists, librarians, or anyone responsible for archives programs at hospital and medical institutions. The Group plans to meet two or three times a year at member institutions in Boston. For further information, please call Frances R. Overcash at (617) 355-5286 or mailto: frances.overcash@tch. harvard.edu

There is also a Medical Archivists Group (MAGL) listserv for exchanging information and discussing issues and topics faced by medical archivists. The list is open to anyone with an interest in medical archives. To subscribe, send an e-mail to MAGLsubscribe@ listbot.com or visit the Medical Archivists Group List Web page at <a href="http://MAGL.listbot.com">http://MAGL.listbot.com</a>.

\* \* \*

The Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science has a Web site with conference information. Papers are solicited from both faculty and graduate students. For further information, please go to <a href="http://www.uab.edu/historical/sahms.htm">http://www.uab.edu/historical/sahms.htm</a>.

\* \* \*

John Buder sends news of a new electronic journal, *Hygiea Internationalis, An Interdisciplinary Journal for the History of Public Health*. The first issue came online in October of 1999 and may be accessed at <a href="http://www.tema.liu.se/inhph/journal/default.htm">http://www.tema.liu.se/inhph/journal/default.htm</a>>.

\* \* \*

Editors Waltraud Ernst and Bernard Harris announce publication of *Race, Science and Medicine, c. 1700-1960*, a major interdisciplinary reassessment of 'race' in relation to medical theories and practices. The book was published in June 1999 by Routledge.

\* \* \*

Linda Lohr and Sharon Gray, Health Sciences Library, University of Buffalo, have produced a number of bibliographies on the following Web sites:

The Robert L. Brown History of Medicine Collection at the University of Buffalo includes bibliographies that have links to full text articles on topics of local medical historical interest. Articles that no longer have copyright restrictions have been scanned into PDF files and linked to the bibliography. This exciting use of technology provides access to vulnerable historical materials that are kept, in print form, in closed stacks. The site is <a href="http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/hsl/history">http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/hsl/history</a>.

The Assassination of President McKinley site refers to publications on William McKinley's death that occurred during the 1901 Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, New York. The articles include the official reports by the physicians who attended the President as well as the autopsy report. <a href="http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/hsl/history/mckinley.html">http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/hsl/history/mckinley.html</a>>.

The Influenza Epidemic of 1918-1919 site features reports of nurses and general articles on the epidemic that caused devastation throughout the world. <a href="http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/hsl/history/flu.html">http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/hsl/history/flu.html</a>>.

The Medical Aspects of the Pan American Exposition site provides articles on an event that featured cutting-edge technology that would influence the beginning of the second millennium. <a href="http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/hsl/history/panam.html">http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/hsl/history/panam.html</a>>.

#### **HAPPY ENDINGS**

Katharine E. S. Donahue tells this wonderful story:

In May 1999, Dr. Lawrence Longo of Loma Linda University gave a presentation to the residents in Obstetrics/Gynecology on the history of that topic. Using rare books from the History and Special Collections of the Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library, he gave an illustrated overview of their discipline. Many of the residents had little idea of the history of their subject and this introduction was of much interest.

Dr. Longo selected the books to be displayed and I suggested others. An exercise of this kind is an enlightening experience in a number of different ways. In particular it focused my attention on what we did have and what we did not have. One of the books that was not in our collection was Jacques Maygrier's wonderful work on pregnancy and childbirth, Nouvelles demonstrations d'accouchements ... (1822-1827). Serendipitously, Roger Gaskill, bookseller and scholar, was in Los Angeles on a William Andrews Clark Library Fellowship comparing depiction of women in various copies of medical texts and works. It turned out that he had just acquired the work and offered it to us. The book arrived last month and it is truly a wonderful new addition to our collection. The copperplate engravings reveal the practices of the day from pelvic examination to birthing to feeding of the infant.

\* \* \*

#### And Edwina Walls Mann has another:

According to the "Notes from the School of Medicine" column in the November, 1930 issue of the *Arkansas Alumnus*, the Archives of the Library of the School of Medicine in Little Rock held a volume published in Latin upon pages yellow with age. Entitled *A Treatise on Surgery* by Vido Vidio Florentino, it was written and published in Latin by Petrus Galterius Lucetiae in 1544. It had come to the Library from the library of Dr. Edwin Bentley, one of the founders of what is now the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Edwina Walls Mann joined the Library faculty on September 23, 1965. For 22 of her 34 years as faculty, she worked to locate the Library's missing copy or to replace it. Recently a reprint was located in a dealer's catalog. At the History of Medicine Associate's dinner on September 23, 1999, the Library's Historical Research Center was presented with that reprint by Mary Ryan, UAMS Library Director, in honor of Mrs. Mann's 34 years of outstanding service to the Library. As quoted in the UAMS Library News, "We are pleased to announce the return of the work to the

Library, in reprint if not the original, and to honor Edwina Walls Mann for her 34 years of service."

#### **NEWS FROM HMD**

by Elizabeth Fee

It was very pleasant to slide gently into the New Year with no apparent harm from the Y2K bug. Life in HMD is busy with the transfer of Histline to Pubmed, which is to be completed by June 2000, the planning for the AAHM and ALHHS meetings to be held in Bethesda in May 2000, and many other special projects along the way.

#### STAFF CHANGES

We started off the New Year with several changes of the guard and some very welcome new appointments. Janice Lazarus was appointed Collections Manager for Prints and Photographs and Nancy C. Dosch took over as Collections Manager for Historical Audiovisuals. Jan has 16 years of experience working in special collections, 13 of them in HMD's Prints and Photographs Collection, so she already knows the collection intimately. One of Jan's first tasks will be to organize and supervise the move of the collection into newly renovated space on the B3 level. Nancy Dosch has been working with the Historical Audiovisuals Collection for several months and has already accomplished a great deal in instituting new collection management and preservation procedures. She is familiar with the broad range of materials in HMD, having completed her Ph.D. with the University of Maryland and having worked for a number of years in HMD as a student researcher, volunteer, consultant, and contractor.

As the new Manuscripts Technician, James B. Labosier has begun the task of bar-coding all manuscripts collections and is working on the manuscript accession records in Voyager. He will soon be joined by John Rees who will be coming from the Library of Virginia to start work as Assistant Curator for Manuscripts. We look forward to building the modern manuscripts collections and making them increasingly accessible to researchers.

#### "PROFILES IN SCIENCE"

In November 1969, two scientists sat in a bar in downtown Washington, DC, and developed a new theory to explain how cells communicate. The two scientists, Martin Rodbell, a National Institutes of Health (NIH) biochemist, and Oscar H. Hechter, a Northwestern University steroid biochemist, borrowed the term "signal transduction" from computer science and used it to describe how cells receive signals and transmit them as information across the cell.

Thirty years later signal transduction is no longer merely a theory; it has become one of the fundamental paradigms of molecular biology in the 20th century. The Nobel committee recognized the significance of his contribution when in 1994 they awarded the Nobel Prize to Rodbell along with Dr. Alfred G. Gilman of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Martin Rodbell's papers have now been added to the "Profiles in Science" Web site <a href="http://www.profiles.nlm.nih.gov">http://www.profiles.nlm.nih.gov</a>, the NLM's online digital library site dedicated to the lives and works of prominent 20th-century biomedical scientists.

The new site, arranged by historian David Serlin, shows off a variety of documents and includes materials that span the various phases of Rodbell's life and career, from a 1939 diary entry written on the brink of World War II to video clips of his public lecture delivered just weeks before his death in December 1998. Other documents include correspondence, photographs, speeches and poems, laboratory notebooks, and unpublished papers. Site visitors can, for example, read the original poem Rodbell read before Carl Gustav, King of Sweden, upon accepting the Nobel Prize.

## CLASSICS OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE

The new exhibition, Classics of Traditional Chinese Medicine from the National Library of Medicine Collection, is on display in the lobby of the NLM.

Composed of fine rice paper and beautifully bound, the volumes range from treatises on herbal remedies and acupuncture to surgical techniques and the concept of Yin and Yang. The exhibited books range from the 15th through 19th centuries. Some originated in Japan or Korea where medical practitioners copied from, and adapted, early Chinese medical texts. Several are illustrated with pen and ink drawings depicting various herbs, minerals, animals and acupuncture points.

"Many of the herbs—ginseng, ma huang, gingko biloba—that have been used in Chinese medicine for 3,000 years are now familiar to Western medicine and are used by millions of people all over the world," noted Young Rhee, curator of the exhibit.

In addition to this small exhibit, and the large exhibition on the history of asthma, *Breath of Life*, HMD will be organizing a small exhibit of medieval manuscripts for display to the members of ALHHS and AAHM.

We look forward to seeing you in Bethesda in May 2000.

## NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME LIBRARY

By John Symons

On December 2, 1949 the Wellcome Library was formally declared open to readers, after some fifty years of preparation behind closed doors. A reception to mark the golden jubilee of this event was held on November 10, 1999. Roy Porter spoke on the benefits of reading, Marina Warner on the rich resources of the Library in her own areas of cultural research, currently focused on the occult, and Iain Pears, author of *An Instance of the Fingerpost*, on the changing library world. The Library in 1949, under post-war



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restrictions, was shabbily furnished and underfunded. The last half century has seen it transformed, beginning in the 1960s with its transfer from the Wellcome pharmaceutical company to the Wellcome Trust. Modern technology is still bringing fresh opportunities in the way in which the Library stores and communicates information and provides its services to readers and off-site inquirers.

When the Library first opened it was as the Wellcome Historical Medical Library – still a familiar name to many in the library world. Since 1968 it has been the Library of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. The golden jubilee, by chance, coincides with the adoption of a new identity, the Wellcome Library for the History and Understanding of Medicine (Wellcome Library for short). This change has been brought about by administrative changes within the Wellcome Trust, reflecting the position of the Library within the Trust's Medicine, Society and History division, and the incorporation of the Trust's Information Service, the Medical Photographic Library and the Medical Film and Video Library. It is intended that the Library should be generally known informally as the Wellcome Library, which was its first recorded name in its embryonic state at the turn of the century and has been in common use unofficially ever since.

At the same time it has been decided that the Academic Unit for the History of Medicine – the other component of the former Wellcome Institute - should be administratively linked more closely with University College London, on the same lines as the various medical research units and centres funded by the Wellcome Trust, and that the name of the Institute should be discontinued. The Academic Unit has long been affiliated to the Department of Anatomy at University College, where its students are formally registered, and negotiations to formalize this link are now under way. The Unit (probably to be known as the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine) will continue to be funded by the Wellcome Trust, but through the College rather than directly, and will continue to be accommodated on Trust premises where staff and students will maintain their close links with the Library. It is sad to lose a name which has been familiar for over thirty years, but the activities of the Academic Unit should carry on as before, and the new arrangements offer potential for

greater autonomy and opportunity for development.

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### Richard Jasper Durling (1932-1999)

Richard Durling died at the age of 67 on June 5 after many years of precarious health. Although he abandoned library work for academic research some thirty years ago, the bibliographical work done early in his career will keep his name alive in the world of medical rare books. He spent much of the 1960s in the USA, where he did his best-known work.

After taking a classics degree at King's College, Cambridge, and training in librarianship at London University, he joined the Wellcome Library in 1958. During his first year, apart from an impressive amount of routine work, he produced a three-volume Bibliography of 16th-century editions of Galen as his library school dissertation, catalogued the library of the York Medical Society and published his first bibliographical articles. He also developed the interest in Galen which was to absorb him for the rest of his life.

He moved to the University of Kansas in 1961 and then, from 1963 to 1968, worked at the National Library of Medicine, producing its Catalogue of 16th-century Printed Books in 1967, a monumental achievement in such a short time, which was immediately established as a standard reference work. It was partly a matter of editing into publishable form the detailed bibliographical research of earlier cataloguers, but also involved much original cataloging and editorial work. He married Sheila Parker in Washington in October 1963.

He might have continued in the United States, either remaining at the NLM or enrolling for a Ph.D. in the history of medicine at Johns Hopkins, but the pull of England was strong and he accepted a post in Cambridge University Library. This seemed at first an attractive prospect, but he found himself frustrated by a heavy work-load with little or no time for research. His appointment to a research fellowship at Kiel University, Germany, in 1972 came as a welcome relief and he remained there for the rest of his life.

working indefatigably and productively on medieval and Renaissance medicine, usually with Galen as his central focus. He founded the series *Galenus Latinus*, to match other series devoted to the Latin traditions of classical and Arabic authors, and published *A Dictionary of Medical Terms in Galen* in 1993.

A masterly condensation of his Galen bibliography was published as "A chronological census of Renaissance editions and translations of Galen" in the Journal of the Warburg & Courtauld Institutes, 1961, and remains the standard and indispensable guide, probably his most widely consulted work after his NLM catalogue. His life's work, still unfinished at his death, was a full account of medieval and Renaissance translations of Galen for the series Catalogus translationum et commentariorum (CTC) initiated by Paul Oskar Kristeller, and it is hoped that this will be completed by other hands.

Although personal visits to the Wellcome Library had long ceased, he remained a regular correspondent until the very end, bombarding the staff with queries for the CTC. Our sympathies go to Sheila and their two sons.

John Symons Curator, Early Printed Books Wellcome Library, London

#### **Louise M. Darling (1911-1999)**

"Our first incunabula arrived at the beginning of the fifties— (it was) Dioscorides' *De materia medica*, 1478. That was an exciting day!" Louise M. Darling.

Louise M. Darling died in 1999 at the age of 88. Louise

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was the founding librarian of the UCLA Biomedical Library (Biomed) and in honor of her achievement, the library was named for her in 1987. Her contributions to the field of medical librarianship (1) are well known and remembered by her colleagues and by those she mentored. Less well-known is her contribution to the field of the history of medicine and biology. Since Louise started the library the character of the collections were hers to mold. She decided that "Biomed" would have historical collections: "Building a history of medicine collection has been part of the library's acquisitions policy since day one. The purpose was to shed light on the development of the disciplines the library served—to be useful to faculty and students and eventually to serve as the laboratory for a department of medical history. Though we speak for convenience in terms of medical history, our concern as a biomedical library was for both the life and health sciences with their central overlap in the basic sciences of anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, biochemistry, etc. And of course the overlap is beautifully illustrated in the early literature where there is little distinction, though later the life science fields of natural history, taxonomy and the classics in botany and zoology are quite separate."

Before Louise retired in 1978, she saw the historical collections grow in size and quality from a collection which could be housed in a small "early imprints room" to a major collection ranked amongst the top five history of medicine and biology collections in the United States. Under her guidance, two supporting endowments were obtained; a floor devoted to history anchored by a fine rare book room was built; a supporting division staffed with a librarian and an assistant was created; and a Department of Medical History was established in the UCLA School of Medicine headed by the Vesalian scholar Charles Donald O'Malley. The first librarian was Martha Teach Gnudi, who served from 1965 until her death in 1976. She was well known for her scholarly work on Tagliacozzi.

Over the years the collection benefited from many fine gifts. Stellar among them was the gift by John and Mae Benjamin of over one thousand seminal works in urology, medicine, biology, and science. This gift included first editions of Harvey's *De Motu Cordis* (1628), Vesalius' *Fabrica* (1543), Darwin's *Origin of Species* (1859, 1st issue), and Newton's *Principia* 

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(1687). Dr. Elmer Belt, at Louise's prompting, donated two fine collections: the works of S. Weir Mitchell and the works of Florence Nightingale. Ophthalmology was enriched by a gift from Dr. Maurice Beigelman. The Franklin D. Murphy, M.D. Fund, our collection endowment, was started under Louise, and has allowed the collection to continue to grow and prosper.

One of her greatest contributions to the history of the health and life sciences at Biomed was the journal collection she built. In early collection development documents, Louise stated she would "give primary emphasis to building up research periodical sets... the basic science set should be built from volume one..." As a result, Biomed has a superb journal collection that serves the historical community well.

Louise relinquished her collection development responsibilities to Martha Gnudi and subsequent history librarians. She never lost her interest and passion and she passed it along to her successors. 1. Obituary. "Louise M. Darling, 1911-1999." *Bull Med Libr Assoc* 87(4)October 1999

Katharine E.S. Donahue Head of the History and Special Collections Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library, UCLA

#### FROM THE 'NET

By Eric v.d. Luft

The 37th International Congress on the History of Medicine will be held at the Moody Gardens Hotel in Galveston, Texas between September 15 and September 20 in the year 2000. The deadline for submission of abstracts is November 15, 1999. The deadline for advance registration is May 1, 2000. Those who would like a packet of information about this Congress that includes abstract and registration forms may request one by sending your name and address to me.

Dr. Chester R. Burns University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, TX 77555-1311 <cburns@utmb.edu>

(caduceus-l@list.umaryland.edu, 27 Sept. 1999)

\* \* \*

The Society of American Archivists' Preservation Section is pleased to announce the release of its new Web site: <a href="http://dlis.gseis.ucla.edu/saapreserv/">http://dlis.gseis.ucla.edu/saapreserv/</a> prindex.htm>. Highlighting SAA Preservation Section activities and acting as starting point for those interested in learning more about preservation, the site includes information on: section leadership and operating practices; current and past newsletters; useful preservation links; and Selected Readings in Preservation, the section's annotated guide to publishing on archival preservation. We encourage visitors to share their comments on the site. We look forward to hearing from you.

(archives@listserv.muohio.edu, 7 Oct. 1999)

\* \* \*

The Society of American Archivists Preservation Section is pleased to announce the release of the Selected Readings in Preservation 1997/1998 on its recently released Web site <a href="http://dlis.gseis.ucla.edu/saapreserv/prindex.htm">http://dlis.gseis.ucla.edu/saapreserv/prindex.htm</a>. This is an annotated list of selected sources released in a given calendar year on archival preservation. Issued as a service to the Section and the archives community, it is not an official publication of the Society.

Selected Readings in Preservation contains books, reports, periodicals, and articles in English that relate to archival preservation. Geared to the general archives community, it is designed to serve as a convenient reference to selected sources. It is not intended to be comprehensive. To the extent possible, citations include the cost of and instructions for ordering publications. Function and record format structure the list, as follows: general works (sources that overlap specialized subject areas); preservation planning and management; holdings maintenance; environmental control; disaster preparedness and security; reformatting/imaging; preservation of paper, parchment and bound records; preservation of photographs; preservation of moving images and sound recordings; preservation of electronic records.

(archives@listserv.muohio.edu, 7 Oct. 1999)

\* \* \*

The Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions invites you to view an exhibit commemorating the 150th anniversary of William Osler's birth. Point your browser to <a href="http://www.med.jhu.edu/medarchives/osler/osler/50.htm">http://www.med.jhu.edu/medarchives/osler/osler/0sler/50.htm</a> to find a broad array of materials documenting the life and contributions of this epic figure in the history of medicine.

(archives@listserv.muohio.edu,caduceus-l@list.umaryland.edu, 12 Oct. 1999)

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#### AHA David M. Little Prize

Each year the Anesthesia History Association awards the David M. Little Prize for the best work of anesthesia history published the previous year in English. The prize is named after Dr. David M. Little, longtime Chair of Anesthesia at Hartford Hospital in Connecticut. Dr. Little, who died in 1981, also wrote for many years the "Classical File" series of history columns for Survey of Anesthesiology.

At its just-completed Anesthesia History Association annual meeting in Dallas, the Little Prize Nominating Committee, chaired by Peter McDermott, MD, announced the following winners:

1999: Norman Bergman for his book The Genesis of Surgical Anesthesia, published by the Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology in Park Ridge, Illinois, in 1998. Honorable Mention: PME Drury for the article "Anaesthesia in the 1920s," British Journal of Anaesthesia 80:96-103, 1998.

1998: E.M. Papper for his article "Anesthesia and the Surgical Experience," Perspectives in Biology and Medicine, 1997, pp 597-618. Honorable Mentions: Bacon D. "The World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiologists: McMechan's final legacy?" Anesthesia and Analgesia 84:1130-1135, 1997. Haridas RP. "Ether Day and the first ether anesthetic in South Africa." South African Journal of Surgery 35:54-58, 1997. Patterson R. "Dr. Charles Thomas Jackson's aphasia." Journal of Medical Biography 5:228-231, 1997. Woolcock HR, Thearle MJ, Sounders K. "My beloved chloroform: attitudes to childbearing in colonial Queensland." Social History of Medicine 10:437-457, 1997.

Congratulations to all the winners and honorable mentions!

(anes-hist@harpo.med.yale.edu, 15 Oct. 1999)

A new French Web site about history of anesthesiology: <a href="http://www.histanestrea-france.org">http://www.histanestrea-france.org</a>. You can discover the first steps in this project. William Fourche: < http://www.anesthesie.net/ william.fourche>.

(anes-hist@harpo.med.yale.edu, 19 Oct. 1999)

A new electronic discussion list has been established under mailbase. The list, history-digitisation, is

concerned with the digitisation, whether as an image or a fully machine-readable document, of historical material. Particular emphasis will be placed on the application of Optical Character Recognition technology to 'difficult' material. Increasingly there are efforts to add content to the World Wide Web. In the UK the government, through the New Opportunities Fund, has recently announced a £350,000,000 initiative to create digital resources. Much of this material will be of a historical nature. This poses unique problems - the material may be of poor quality and hence difficult to capture, it may be rare and fragile. This list aims to bring together experts in the field of digitising historical material and academics who have projects in mind. To join historydigitisation go to <a href="http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/">http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/</a> history-digitisation/> or, alternatively, send an e-mail to <mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk> with the following text in the BODY of the message: join history-digitisation <FIRSTNAME> <LASTNAME>

(anes-hist@harpo.med.yale.edu, 3 Nov. 1999)

Science in the Nineteenth-Century Periodical: An Interdisciplinary Conference Organized by the SciPer Project, 10-12 April 2000, University of Leeds.

This inaugural conference of the Science in the Nineteenth-Century Periodical (SciPer) project will explore all aspects of this interdisciplinary area, with panels on: Educating Women in Science, Science in the Periodical Marketplace, The New Journalism,

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A full version of the provisional programme is available at: <a href="http://www.shef.ac.uk/uni/academic/D-H/el/sciper/Programme.htm">http://www.shef.ac.uk/uni/academic/D-H/el/sciper/Programme.htm</a>>. ...

The Science in the Nineteenth-Century Periodical (SciPer) project is jointly based at the Centre for Nineteenth-Century Studies (Department of English Literature) in the University of Sheffield and the Division of History and Philosophy of Science (School of Philosophy) in the University of Leeds. The project, which is funded by the AHRB and the Leverhulme Trust, aims to identify and analyse the representation of science, technology and medicine, as well as the inter-penetration of science and literature, in the general periodical press in Britain between 1800 and 1900.

Enquiries regarding registration should be made to: Dr. J. R. Topham, School of Philosophy, University of Leeds, LS2 9JT Email: <j.r.topham@leeds.ac.uk>. Or visit our website at: <a href="http://www.shef.ac.uk/uni/academic/D-H/el/sciper/Conference.htm">http://www.shef.ac.uk/uni/academic/D-H/el/sciper/Conference.htm</a>>.

(cirla-l@augustana.ab.ca, 8 Dec. 1999)

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Catalogues Sent On Request Appraisals, Searches and Special Requests The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) announces the publication of the third edition of *Preservation of Library & Archival Materials: A Manual*, in hardcover. This revised and expanded edition, edited by Sherelyn Ogden, has been available electronically on the NEDCC Web site since March 1999, but this is the first time it has appeared in printed form.

The purpose of the manual is to provide the basic, practical information needed to enable non-conservator staff of libraries, archives, and museums to plan and implement sound collections care programs. It is intended for those who must make decisions that affect preservation of collections, or who want to upgrade standards of care in order to better preserve materials.

To obtain a copy of *Preservation of Library and Archival Materials: A Manual*, send a check made out to NEDCC for \$50.00 to the Northeast Document Conservation Center, attn: Kim O'Leary, 100 Brickstone Square, Andover, MA 01810; The cost includes UPS Ground shipping and handling within the continental U.S. All payments must be made in U.S. dollars. Include your name and mailing address, or use an order form, available at <www.nedcc.org>.

(exlibris@library.berkeley.edu, 9 Dec. 1999)

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The Cyber Museum of Neurosurgery has a new exhibit featuring links to neuroscience Web sites. Please visit <a href="http://www.neurosurgery.org/cybermuseum/summary.html">http://www.neurosurgery.org/cybermuseum/summary.html</a> and click on Links to History of Neuroscience Web Sites under the floorplan.

(histneur-l@library.ucla.edu, 9 Dec. 1999)

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Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science Announces its 2nd Annual Conference to be held at Birmingham, Alabama, February 18-19, 2000, sponsored by The University of Alabama and The University of Alabama at Birmingham. Those interested in attending should visit the Web site at <www.uab.edu/historical/sahms.htm> or call Mike Flannery at (205) 934-4475.

(caduceus-l@list.umaryland.edu, 14 Dec. 1999)

# ACOG-ORTHO FELLOWSHIP IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical Corporation jointly sponsor two \$5,000 fellowships in the History of American Obstetrics and Gynecology each year. ACOG members and other qualified individuals are encouraged to apply. The recipients of the fellowships spend one month in the Washington, DC, area working full-time to complete their specific historical research project.

Although the fellowships will be based in the ACOG History Library, the fellows are encouraged to use other national, historical, and medical collections in the Washington DC area. The results of this research must be disseminated through either publication or presentation at a professional meeting. Applications and further information about the fellowship can be obtained by contacting:

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

Mrs. Susan Rishworth, History Librarian/Archivist 409 Twelfth Street, SW

Washington, DC 20024-2588

Phone (202) 863-2578 or (202) 863-2518

(202) 484-1595 (Fax)

E-mail: Srishwor@acog.org

Applications must be received by September 1, 2000. Selection will be made and the recipient notified as soon as possible after the deadline so that the fellowship may begin as early as Winter, 2001.

\* \* \*

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists announces that the recipients of the year 2000 ACOG/Ortho-McNeil Fellowship in the History of American Obstetrics and Gynecology are Elizabeth Siegel Watkins, Ph.D., Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, whose research project is, "Medicine, Menopause, and Aging: A Social and Cultural History of Hormone Therapy for Women," and Nancy R. Aries, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Public Administration, Baruch College, City University of New York, who will be researching the topic, "The Dynamics of Abortion Policy Formulation within ACOG, 1915-1973."

*The Watermark* is issued quarterly to members of Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences and is edited by Lilli Sentz.

Membership information may be obtained from Stephen C. Wagner, ALHHS Secretary-Treasurer, Department of Philosophy, University of Oklahoma, 455 West Lindsey Street, Room 605, Norman, OK 73019-2006; (405) 325-6324 or (405) 325-1830; FAX: (405) 325-2660; E-MAIL: swagner@ou.edu

Production deadlines are 1 March, 1 June, 1 September and 1 December.

Submissions may be sent to: Lilli Sentz, Special Projects Librarian, New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10029-5293; (212) 822-7313; FAX (212) 722-7650; E-MAIL lsentz@nyam.org.

Submissions for Ex Libris should be sent to: Lucretia W. McClure, 164 Elmore Road, Rochester, NY 14618-3651; (716) 244-8703; E-MAIL lucretiaru@earthlink.net