

Alone Together: Managing History of Medicine Collections In Non-Historical Environments

Introduction

By Thomas Horrocks

Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine

When Elaine Challacombe asked me to organize this year's ALHHS program, I was pleased to accept. I already had a program idea, one that had been rattling around in my head for a few years. I trace its origins back to the time a few years ago when all of us in the Association were concerned with the situation at the National Library of Medicine: (i.e., the position of Chief of the History of Medicine Division (HMD) held hostage by a hiring freeze). I remember thinking at the time that, despite the financial situation at NLM, HMD would survive. I also remember thinking that for many other history of medicine collections, a hiring freeze or budget cut would have crippled if not closed down their programs. And around that time some were crippled and some did close. Fortunately, HMD not only survived, but it is thriving. Unfortunately, it is one of the few history of medicine collections that can claim a thriving status. Most history of medicine collections will never be able to make this claim. In view of this sobering fact, how do we—as individuals who manage these collections—cope with meager budgets, disinterested administrators, and little if any staff support? How do we keep the lights on and the doors open? Hopefully, the papers that follow will provide some answers and guidance.

Many of us in ALHHS work as archivists or special collections librarians in hospitals or medical schools. Many of us either work alone or are the only professional on a staff of two or possibly three in an

archives or special collections department, and some of us report not to librarians but to development officers or public relations specialists. Many of us have job descriptions that list multiple responsibilities, such as reference, cataloging, conservation, and exhibits, and often we are the lone voice—and one seldom heard at the decision-making table—for our program within our institutions. Of course, few archives and special collections programs are adequately funded. The situation in the health sciences is more acute, however. 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. Some are on life support. The financial implications of recent trends in medicine and health care have exacerbated this situation. But it is the culture that pervades most hospitals and medical schools—a culture that ignores history or is ignorant of the value of history—that is the major hurdle faced by us in our attempts to keep our programs alive and well.

This year's program consisted of a panel discussion on managing history of medicine collections in non-historical environments. The panel was comprised of an archivist, three special collections librarians, and a physician-historian of medicine who has been actively involved with a special collections program. Each panelist has been associated with her/his respective institution 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. By addressing specific issues dealing with archives and special

collections in the health sciences from the perspective of her/his own experiences, each panelist provides invaluable advice and guidance to ALHHS members who are working in similar environments, especially to those members who are new to their positions.

I want to thank Billie Broaddus, Kathy Donahue, Joan Echtenkamp Klein, Adele Lerner, and Steve Peitzman for participating in this year's program.

* * *

Editor's Note: The presentations of Katharine Donahue and Joan Echtenkamp Klein follow below. The remaining papers from the ALHHS program will be published in the Fall 2000 issue of *The Watermark*.

* * *

Katharine E.S. Donahue
Louise Darling Biomedical Library, UCLA

For my part of the talk I offer the following variations on the title *Alone Together: Managing History of Medicine Collections in Non-historical Environments* which will also give you an idea of the thrust of my talk:

Alternative 1: If you don't have one (meaning an historical environment), then create one or change your environment.

Alternative 2: Alone no more. Or you have to get out more or invite more friends in.

The original title has a number of implications for me. One of them, and the one on which I will concentrate,

implies that if you exist in a non-historical environment like a medical school, then probably most of the people who use your collection are not historians. They may be physicians getting five minutes worth of historical background for grand rounds and/or retired doctors or scientists. It implies that the historical work they do is not what they were trained to do, but is something they think they can do when they retire. If they are your major constituency, you may only have a few people using the material and they probably aren't very good at it. I think of it as "puttering in the collection." Let me state immediately that I am for this kind of use and these physicians bring a unique perspective to their topics. However, I curate a collection that is quite superb and it needs and, forgive the personification, deserves to be used by more people, including scholars with a different kind of training. I want to encourage people to use my collection to study history, or sociology, or gender studies, or race studies. I want museum curators doing exhibits to use my collection. I want writers to consult the collection. My focus, then, because of my particular situation, will be on my efforts at creating visibility for the collection and broadening the use of the collection; in fact creating an historical environment that will serve not only the school of medicine, etc., but will also serve historians.

Since this has long been a goal of mine, I am going to discuss our situation and what I have done to create an historical environment and stimulate use of the collection and make it more visible across campus. First, let me put my collection and the library in context for you. I am a bit of a hybrid. My library and my situation have some characteristics typical of a non-historical environment, but not all of them. I report to librarians who prize and support our special

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collections. So, in those terms I have never been alone. The staff consists of one full-time librarian (myself); 75% of a librarian; and a full-time library assistant. We also have money for twenty hours of student help per week. This staff roster is the largest we have ever had. However, minimum support has always been two people.

Physically, we are located in a giant complex called the Center for the Health Sciences and we do serve the needs of the medical school faculty, staff, and students, and departments such as Public Health, Dentistry, and Nursing. The "Bio" in Biomed refers to biology, not biomedicine, and thus we support such disciplines and departments as Organismic Biology, Ecology and Evolution, Physiological Science, and Psychology amongst others. It serves both communities and was located physically to facilitate use by the members of those groups.

The Biomedical Library does not, however, report to any of these academic units; it is part of the UCLA library system and the Director of the Biomedical Library reports directly to the University Librarian. The Center for the Health Sciences where the library is (and thus where I am) is located on the "main" campus—there is not a separate campus for the hospital and medical school. Of course, with the social sciences and humanities located and clustered at the north end of campus and the sciences at the south end, there is the inevitable divide and some never venture south to Biomed—considering it a place for scientists and no place for a humanities scholar. However, it is really only about a ten minute walk to Biomed from the Research library for the social sciences and humanities.

Finally, since the history of medicine has always been considered important (how important has varied over the years), the School of Medicine and other departments (namely Psychiatry) have supported a faculty in the history of medicine that has varied in size over the years at various levels. At this time it is a Division within a department—previously it was a full department. This faculty consists of three historians. There are no required history courses for medical, dental, public health, or nursing students, however, and no degree is available. Electives are offered and various programs have been developed to encourage participation of medical students and others. These electives are offered sporadically.

So to recap: We are not as isolated as some and I have always had the basic support of the library

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administration for such things as cataloging and retrospective conversion, preservation of the collection, and acquisitions. It is important that we are part of the library system (as opposed to reporting to the dean of the Medical School) and thus I can broaden our mandate and primary user group with some ease. We have on site history faculty with whom I can work and the faculty of other disciplines not far away. Thus, the goal of creating an historical environment is definitely attainable. Having said this, let me say that early on it became clear to me that without some effort on my part, the collections of the History Division would not get as much use as they deserve. We needed more users than the three or four history of medicine faculty. I wanted and felt we needed more students than were coming out of the

elective classes taught by the faculty. It also seemed important to bring in scholars—faculty, undergraduates, graduates, and post-docs interested in a broad interpretation of this material. For the last eleven years, I have done everything I could to reach out and make the collection known and to attract users.

So what are these activities? Whom do you cultivate and whom do you lobby?

Access and Knowledge of Collection

There is no underestimating the value of having all your collections cataloged and on-line. Soon after I came to UCLA, retrospective conversion was done on all rare monographs and serials. All items purchased receive an in-process record—which is something we do—so even very recently acquired rare titles are available in the catalog. For ongoing rare book and manuscript cataloging, we use part of our collection endowment for the history of medicine to pay for 50% of a cataloger. (As an aside, this ability to be flexible with the use of private money is very valuable and should be considered.) We are now very involved with preparing our manuscript and archival collections to be available through the California Digital Library and the On-line Archive of California. This is done using EAD (Encoded Archival Description) mark-up on finding aids which are mounted on the Web. The advantages of this are clear. Finding aids are a backbone for making content available.

Outreach

First law of the land is to take advantage of the resources at hand. I work very closely with all our history of medicine faculty in a number of ways and on a variety of projects. Three of us (two faculty and myself) run our lecture series *UCLA Programs in Medical Classics*. We tap clinicians from our various departments, scientists, and historians from the humanities and social sciences from UCLA, as well as other institutions across the country and Europe as speakers. Our audience is a town and gown combination. We have people interested in the subject matter and we have people who are book oriented. There are eight lectures a year and we prepare a small exhibit for each of them that highlights the collection. These lectures bring potential users of our collection every time. They also are a good place to cultivate supporters and donors if you see that as part of your

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job description, which I do.

With another of our faculty, Dr. Ynez O'Neill, we, (meaning myself and one of my part-time staff members) are working on a project for the Web called the Graphic IMMI (Index of Medieval Medical Images with Images attached.) Some years ago (before the Web), Dr. O'Neill started a project to index and catalog all the medical images in medieval manuscripts held by North American libraries. At the time there was no technology to add the image online to the cataloging. We are now adding the images. As we get permission to mount the images, we are putting them up on the Web with the cataloging. We are currently working on one of the most important manuscripts of its kind, the *Paneth*, which belongs to the Historical Library of the Cushing/Whitney Medical Library at Yale and for which we have received permission to mount the images on the Web. This kind of project not only builds constituents for us, but also for the libraries who own the manuscripts.

Naturally, faculty are users of collections themselves and, to facilitate their use, I buy particular works to enhance their research. I can do this because I have a large endowment and can afford to build the collection as well as tailor my buying to suit the research needs of "my immediate faculty." Faculty are also the source of students and, when they teach

classes, I sometimes give introductions to historical resources and, of course, we are available to provide reference and some research assistance. Depending on the size of the class being taught, we allow and encourage faculty to use our Rare Book Room especially if they are using our books to illustrate the course. This environment can make a long-lasting impression on students. At times, professors will bring their class to the RBR for just one or two sessions. We will also take books to classes if the classes can't come to us.

Because faculty have contacts that librarians sometimes don't have in the academic community and because they have influence over the academic program, I have tried to keep them informed as to the needs of the collection. Over the years I have often talked about the problem of "no degree in the history of medicine" being offered in the School of Medicine. And, in truth, no degree will be offered. But in the last few years more of the School of Medicine faculty have gotten joint appointments in the Department of History. Some of this is serendipity—the History Department is starting to build strength in the history of science. They have created a Center for the Cultural Study of Science, Technology, and Medicine and their success comes from faculty from all across campus and from many departments having joint appointments in the Center. I have taken advantage of their connections and the growth of this center to advertise the collections at Biomed. A minor in the history of science and medicine is now being discussed and this would be most beneficial for us. Curriculum would be developed, classes required; students would be

directed to the historical collections and, very importantly, they would receive an early introduction to the history of medicine which we hope will make a lasting impression on the students whether they move toward history or medicine as a profession.

Collaborating with faculty can be very fruitful or it can lead nowhere. I have been fortunate in that some of my contacts with faculty have led to positive results both in the short and the long term. One of the most productive relationships was with John C. Liebeskind, a professor of physiological psychology, who focused on pain. After he closed his lab, he began to concentrate on the history of the development of the pain field and to document the growth and development of the field through oral histories. John and I came together as he was trying to decide what to do with his oral histories—I offered to take them and from that small beginning a large, complex collection has grown and has attracted a great deal of support from the academic community as well as the pain community at large. Collaborating with faculty can also provide more staff support for the library. This is the case with the Liebeskind collection; through his connections and his lobbying, we have support for part of a librarian/archivist for the Pain Collection.

I consider outreach to be one of the most important things I do. In many instances this simply entails going to seminars and lectures sponsored by the various departments and taking part in the life of the scholars and their students. I make sure I am on distribution lists so I know what events are occurring on campus and in the community at large. If it seems at all appropriate, I have gotten in touch with the organizers

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and asked if they want a small exhibit of appropriate rare materials. It is important to get to know faculty and see how your collection can help them in their classes and in their research. I let various faculty know if I have acquired a particularly interesting title. I have on occasion volunteered to show prospective history faculty around the Biomedical Library and the History Division if they have a research interest in one of our fields. Once in awhile, I have given "scholarly" talks at symposia, but not too often since I am not an historian and the research curve can be hefty. I do speak frequently about the collection and to classes about books and various subjects. I think we as curators and librarians are the best advertisement for our collections.

Encouraging Students

One of the means we have employed to encourage medical students to do historical research is offering a monetary prize and medal for the best original paper written by a medical student at UCLA. This has been varyingly successful, but has in the last two years ground to a halt despite a prize of \$2,500 and a medal. Recently, we have discussed splitting the prize and giving \$1,250 to a medical student and \$1,250 to graduate student in history. It is our hope that the history students will find the prize attractive and focus on the history of medicine and biology. Naturally, we would like the medical students to compete as well.

Exhibits



I prepare exhibits, both large and small, on a regular basis in the exhibit cases at Biomed. Some exhibits have been done in conjunction with special UCLA Programs in Medical Classics lectures. In those instances, working with the faculty we have done year-long programs with a focus, such as the bicentennial of the French Revolution and the Quincentenary celebration.

These year-long programs were supported with extramural funds (NEH for instance) or other sources. The funds allowed us to bring in speakers from all across the country and Europe; it allowed us to work with an exhibits designer for the mounting and presentation of the exhibit; and it allowed us in one instance to take our program (speaker and a portable exhibit) to four other venues in the community. In recent years we have been taking our real exhibits to

the Web and I have done a series of virtual exhibits focusing on various aspects of the collection that interest me. Examples of these are: *The Relief of Pain & Suffering, Bloodletting, and Smallpox-Inoculation, Vaccination, and Eradication*. In each of these instances, there is more or less actual content mounted in support of the theme. I have found that these kinds of exhibits or sketches draw on an audience from across the country.

Advertising the Collection

Just as it is important to have the collection cataloged and in the online catalog, OCLC, etc., it is also important to take advantage of the new technologies and right now for us that means using the Web to advertise programs and collections. We have used it to particular advantage to highlight the John C. Liebeskind History of Pain Collection. On this site we have put a list of all the oral histories, all the papers and records, the staff, an exhibit, and our activities. We can keep it up to date and we get visitors coming to us from around the world. We are now beginning to explore using Oracle software to mount the transcripts of the oral histories on the Web. I also take advantage of all the conventional ways of disseminating information about the collection in general or about various parts of the collection by writing for the *UCLA Librarian*, *The Watermark*, other

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publications on campus, and basically for any publication that asks.

Collection Development for the Future

In addition to buying (and I am extraordinarily fortunate to have several generous endowments) to enhance our strengths and to support history of medicine faculty research efforts, I have been able to buy with new and current research trends in mind. Attending seminars and talking with graduate students and faculty, I find a real interest in domestic medicine, women and medicine, colonial medicine (not American, but medicine as an arm of politics in colonial countries and the clash between indigenous medicine and Western medicine, etc.) and, of course, pain. Finally, although we have primarily been a rare book collection, we are now branching into manuscripts—papers and records. The pain collection is our largest, most concerted effort. Adding manuscripts to the collection is being done in recognition of the interest in twentieth-century medicine and the need for primary resource materials for students and faculty.

Obtaining Extra-curricular Support—Grants and Donors

I have been particularly fortunate to have great people in the community who are interested in UCLA and the history of medicine. Through the generosity of these people we have been able to keep abreast of new technologies and use the new technology to bring the history of medicine to the Web. Getting to know your friends (sometimes cultivating donors) is a very important activity and I find it rewarding personally—there are a lot of interesting people out there. I have also been involved in a number of grants to make the collection more accessible or to preserve it.

To sum up: I think we have a better user base than we had when I arrived more than ten years ago. We had one makeshift desk for readers and now we have four tables and seats for eight (in a pinch) in a special reading room that is monitored by cameras. Seldom does a day pass that we don't have a reader sitting down doing research with our material. Classes from a wide variety of disciplines visit and view the material through their particular lens of study. There is always room for growth and I will continue to advertise the collection and make it available.

Joan Echtenkamp Klein

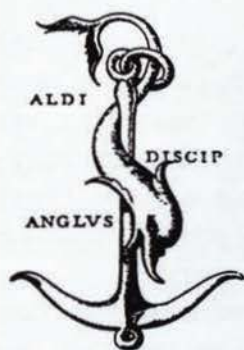
The Claude Moore Health Sciences Library

I began working at The Claude Moore Health Sciences Library on January 2, 1982. I was the first professional librarian hired to administer the Health Sciences Library's history of medicine collections. At the time I was hired, the position was half-time Historical Collections Librarian and half-time Reference Librarian. Having the responsibility for building and managing a new department, in addition to working reference, proved quite stressful; it seemed as if I always had to be two places at once. It was also difficult to report to two supervisors, each of whom seemed to want a full-time employee. After several years spent lobbying, my title was changed in 1986 to reflect the fact that the library now had a full-time Historical Collections librarian. I became an adjunct member of the Reference Department (now the Information Services Department) working on the Reference Desk several hours a week.

I still work the desk two hours a week, which al-

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allows me to keep my reference skills honed as well as to maintain a visible presence for the Historical Collections program. The Information Services staff provides back-up coverage for Historical Collections and Services, furnishing service for researchers when no Historical Collections staff is available. The two hours per week I spend at the desk are a great trade-off in terms of peace of mind and continuity of service to our users.

For many years I was the only full-time Historical Collections and Services staff member. I have always been fortunate to have a cadre of wonderful graduate student assistants and temps who stay with me for years at a time. However, if the backbone staffing of a department is students and temps—no matter how dedicated and committed—times of low or no coverage are inevitable. Attending a conference or taking a vacation can be problematic. It eventually worked to my advantage that I am an adjunct in the Information Services Department. Since they provided back-up coverage for Historical Collections, Info Services staff members were aware of the traffic in Historical Collections and helped support my continued lobbying for a full-time Historical Collections Assistant. They could personally attest to the fact that the position was needed and overdue. When reorganization occurred

in the library, I was fortunate to be the recipient of a displaced Library Assistant. The even better news was that my new full-time staff member had worked for me for several years previously as a temp and was thrilled to be back in Historical Collections, this time with benefits!

One of the most valuable lessons I've learned in my eighteen-plus years in an academic health sciences library is to take North Carolina State University basketball coach Jimmy Valvano's mantra to heart: "Don't give up. Don't ever give up." Keep asking. It may take longer than wished to achieve results, indeed it usually does, but eventually that squeaky wheel will get greased. Or a reason for withholding grease will be supplied. At which time, I advise retrenching but not retreating from the field.

One of the lessons Kathy Donahue and I tried to impart in our 1996 Rare Book School course, "Introduction to the Curatorship of Historical Health Sciences Collections," was always to try for a place at the table. Someone in a position to act and with some control over the budget has to hear and re-hear the requests for additional staff, space, money, etc. It is essential that history of medicine collections and programs be considered integral to the mission of the library as a whole. We cannot afford to be viewed as peripheral. I'm not naïve enough to claim that there is a magic bullet that works for every history of medicine curator, as environments and administrators vary widely. However, I do believe strongly in trying to find what works to ensure that a place be set for us at the grown-ups table. I am one of four Assistant Directors in the Library; we report to the Associate Director for Library Operations, who in turn, reports to the Library Director. Our library is quite hierarchical, so I am pleased to be at a level fairly close to the top of the reporting pyramid.

I encourage using a program's strengths as leverage. The annual History of the Health Sciences Lecture Series that I organize consistently garners good publicity for our program; we have had some good coverage by local media for some of our talks, which I never fail to mention whenever appropriate. The Lecture Series has also attracted donors and we all know that money talks.

Our physical and virtual exhibits have brought welcome attention to Historical Collections, from library patrons, UVa faculty, and viewers from around the world. When CNN links directly from their site to our yellow fever Web exhibit, I make it known.

When the organizer of an international yellow fever conference in Dakar makes arrangements to give each participant a printed copy of our yellow fever online exhibit, I spotlight that request in departmental reports and mention it in meetings.

I make a point of working with the faculty and students of all classes having anything to do with the history of medicine, both in the Health Sciences and the Arts and Sciences. These classes always hold at least one class meeting, and often more, in Historical Collections. I want them to know who we are and where we are and why we are important to them. I am fortunate that the University of Virginia was conceived and built by Thomas Jefferson, a man of vision. The University was chartered in 1819 and the first classes met in Jefferson's Academical Village in 1825; incidentally, medicine was taught at UVa from the first session forward. Jefferson believed that the arts and sciences and the health sciences were inextricably linked. As a direct consequence of this Jeffersonian ideal, two hundred years later the two disciplines and the respective two sides of the Grounds continue to physically coexist. I take advantage of the close proximity by encouraging students and faculty to cross the road, Hospital Drive in this particular instance, to see what is on the other side. I will also take the material to the students and faculty; our Vesalius makes an annual trek to the cadaver lab, accompanied by his pals Albinus and Eustachi. Although there is no formal degree-granting history of medicine program at UVa, the two most prestigious fellowships in the Corcoran Department of History at the University last year were both awarded to doctoral candidates working on history of medicine dissertation topics. Two of "my" people! I was, needless to say, quite proud.

In 1998 I received a dual faculty appointment with the Humanities in Medicine Program in the School of

Medicine. This appointment has provided welcome visibility for our collections and services and has proven mutually beneficial to both the library and the School of Medicine. The Dean of the School of Medicine, with whom I work on various projects, has a great respect for history and it helps to have him as an advocate.

One of the ideas I try to convey to our library administration and other members of the library staff is that Historical Collections plays a significant role in the overall mission of the library. Our function is as important as Circulation, Document Delivery, or Systems; we provide a value-added service that benefits the library as a whole. (Parenthetically, being at the University of Virginia works to the advantage of Historical Collections since the University is so very conscious of the past. History is a GOOD thing at UVa and, unlike other places, can be an easy sell. People in positions of authority at UVa realize that they are supposed to at least pretend to like history.) I try to do some old-fashioned, 60s-style consciousness-raising. Sometimes I am more successful than at other times, but I don't fade away. I'm willing to sing the praises of my own department as loudly or as frequently as I feel those praises need to be sung. Someone has to do it! And, to push the singing metaphor just a bit further, those of you who have had the misfortune of hearing me try to sing, might realize that sometimes I get a hearing just to shut me up!

Another component of the Rare Book School class that Kathy Donahue and I taught was to emphasize how unique historical health sciences collections are when compared to other special collections in academic research libraries, to use one example. As directors of our history of medicine collections we manage materials in many formats and we wear many hats, often one hat right on top of the other. We make

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the acquisitions decisions; create the exhibits; organize the lecture series and public programming; create the Web sites; write the grant proposals; teach the classes; provide patron assistance; help the media with research; produce the reunion memory books; do the processing and cataloging and database creation; produce the brochures; host the receptions; and court the donors. One of the skills we have learned through necessity is how to prioritize—and then re-prioritize when the library director needs something done yesterday or the Vice-president and Provost for Health Sciences realizes that the centennial of the hospital is in a few months! —and keep all the balls up in the air. The good news about our constantly moving the pots around the burners, to mix metaphors, is that chances of ever getting bored are slim to none. I use that as a selling point when hiring new staff and students to work in Historical Collections. It seems to work since, as I mentioned, they stay with me for years at a time and I have been “not bored” now for close to twenty years!

Funding for rare book acquisitions is an area in which I differ from many members of ALHHS, I would imagine. We have no large endowments, which means my ability to purchase rare items is severely limited. Our collections, which have increased exponentially in size since I began in 1982, have been built up through donation or transfer from other on-Grounds libraries. One of the ways I am trying to become competitive with the acquisition budgets of my peers is to seek to use the University-wide Capital Campaign to the advantage of Historical Collections. The Library's Capital Campaign has three prongs:

investment in a learning environment—study space and new technology; investment in people/professionals—which included funding for an endowed chair for Historical Collections; and investment in knowledge/collections—which includes a component for supporting the purchase and preservation of primary resources in the history of the health sciences. This level of representation for history of medicine collections, people, and programs in our library's Capital Campaign would not be possible without having a seat at the table. We now have a new, elegant home for Historical Collections as part of the ongoing library construction/renovation project and funding was received to create the Alvin J. and Nancy Baird Professorship in Historical Collections, so I am hopeful that endowments for the purchase of historical materials will also be a dream realized in the new century.

And, speaking of dreams for the future: Having recently added a first full-time staff member I would like to continue building an Historical Collections empire. Size matters at our library. The number of employees reporting to an Assistant Director achieves counting coup. Receiving a two-year Preservation and Digitization National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services has provided funding to hire more Historical Collections staff. Although this is soft money, I'm hopeful that the additional staff precedent may work to our advantage further down the road. I am also interested in expanding the mission of the department and increasing our visibility by taking on responsibility for a true Health System archives. We presently have selective collections of personal papers from some of the leading medical educators at UVa and representative archival collections from the hospital and the School of Medicine. A carefully planned infrastructure needs to be present to support the proposal, as I will only attempt such an endeavor with additional staffing, including a full-time archivist, and sufficient space to house the materials.

I feel that my program has made great strides over the nearly two decades I have been walking the curatorial walk. However, I must admit to moments of introspection—taking a breather and letting my staff keep all the balls up in the air, when I sometimes feel that perhaps it is true that a prophet is often without honor in his or her own country. I mentioned earlier that I am willing to sing the praises of the Historical

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Collections department loudly and often, but there are times where I truly hope I'm not just a voice crying in the wilderness.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of this organization for being willing to listen to me through the years. I owe you all a debt of gratitude. I couldn't have made it this far without you.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

A very big thank you goes to our local arrangements chair, Stephen Greenberg, and his committee for making our 2000 ALHHS meeting such a success. We also greatly appreciate the hospitality of our NLM hosts, Dr. Donald A. B. Lindberg and Dr. Elizabeth Fee. Beginning with our dinner on Wednesday evening at the Bethesda Navy Club, the schedule of events moved along smoothly through the business meeting and the fine program organized by Thomas Horrocks and concluded with a choice of afternoon tours to the History of Medicine Division at the National Library of Medicine, the National Museum of American History, or the National Museum of Health and Medicine. Special mention goes to our official photographer, Charles Greifenstein, who made certain our activities were recorded on film. Great job everyone!

Now that we have all had an opportunity to return to our collections and catch up, it is time to focus our attention on what we want to accomplish in the year ahead. A great deal of our activity will grow out of the recommendations made by the Long Range Planning Committee. To accomplish this I have created a number of ad hoc committees. Stephen Novak will guide the work of the Budget Committee in crafting a financial plan for our organization. Katharine Donahue has agreed to continue to lead the Website Committee. The job of documenting our awards has been assumed by Michael Flannery. Our two standing committees are in capable hands with Lilla Vekerdy chairing the Program Committee for Charleston in 2001 and Joan Echtenkamp Klein the Nominating Committee. Jonathon Erlen will be in charge of producing a new membership directory and in that capacity will work closely with the Website Committee. Jodi Koste has graciously agreed to serve as our archivist. Please get in touch with her if you have any questions about appropriate materials to submit to our archives housed

at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Since she is ideally positioned due to her service as our most immediate past president, Elaine Challacombe will become our liaison with AAHM. (Thanks to Lucretia McClure for this idea.)

I have summarized below the membership of the various committees for ease of referral. In many instances, these committees will be calling on other ALHHS members for information and advice. If you have ideas and experience to share or questions to pose, I, as well as the various chairs, would welcome your contributions. I encourage everyone to use our private listserv <<http://web.upstate.edu/lufte/alhhs-l.html>> to facilitate discussion. I look forward to working with each of you.

Suzanne Porter

Awards Committee

Michael Flannery, chair
Toby Appel
Charles Greifenstein

Budget Committee

Stephen Novak, chair
Elizabeth Ihrig
Jodi Koste

Website Committee

Katharine Donahue, chair
Inci Bowman
Jonathon Erlen
Russell Johnson
Lucretia McClure
Lisa Mix
Lilli Sentz

Nominating Committee

Joan Echtenkamp Klein, chair

Program Committee

Lilla Vekerdy, chair
Jack Eckert
Jonathon Erlen

AAHM Liaison

Elaine Challacombe

Archivist

Jodi Koste

Membership Directory

Jonathon Erlen

HOLLOWAY AWARD

Speaking for this year's Awards Committee (Suzanne Porter, chair; Michael Flannery; Charles Greifenstein; and Lilla Vekerdy), Suzanne Porter announced that Judith Overmier, known to many of us as Robin, had been selected as the third recipient of the Lisabeth M. Holloway Award. Named in honor of a founder and President Pro Tem of our Association who was also for many years the editor of *The Watermark*, the award recognizes significant contributions through leadership and service to ALHHS. The two previous winners of this distinguished service award were Estelle Brodman (1993) and Nancy Zinn (1997).

Robin is a founding member of ALHHS. She served as Secretary Pro Tem in 1975, and was the inaugural editor of *The Watermark* in 1975/76. She again assumed editorial responsibilities for the newsletter in December 1987 through mid 1993. She also served on the Steering Committee from 1977 to 1980 and in 1987. Currently on the faculty of the University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Science where she holds the rank of Associate Professor, Robin received her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. Her dissertation was entitled *Scientific Rare Book Collections in Academic and Research Libraries in Twentieth Century America*. For over twenty years she was the Curator of the Owen H. Wangensteen Historical Library of Biology and Medicine at the University of Minnesota. Robin was unable to attend the meeting since she was traveling in Spain. At Robin's request Lilli Sentz accepted the award on her behalf and read the following remarks:

"I am tickled pink! Not only did I get to spend three decades enjoying myself immensely in the warm,

supportive environment of ALHHS along with my friends and colleagues, but now I actually get an award for doing that! It was when I first started working as a para-professional at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia while I went to library school at Drexel that I met Nancy Zinn and Lisabeth Holloway. They believed that medical history librarianship was a worthwhile lifetime adventure — and I believed them! Over the years I've heard similar sentiments about the joy and value of our joint endeavor voiced by just every single one of you. So, when I accept the Holloway Award, I really accept it for all of us in honor of our shared belief, our mutual adventure. Thank you very, very much." Robin O.

On June 30, the award was delivered to Robin after her return from abroad by Elizabeth Ihrig.

ALHHS BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes

The meeting was convened Thursday May 18, 2000, at 9:00 AM in the Lister Hill Auditorium of the National Library of Medicine.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Elaine Challacombe reported that, due to the resignation of Stephen Wagner as Secretary/Treasurer, no report was available. Stephen Greenberg has agreed to serve as interim Secretary/Treasurer. A report will be made available to the membership as soon as possible.

Nominations: Mary Teloh reported that Richard Behles and Lilla Vekerdy have agreed to serve on the Steering Committee.

Watermark Report: Lilli Sentz thanked all who contributed to *The Watermark* during the past year and The New York Academy of Medicine for hosting the newsletter. She also reported on future plans for the publication.



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Holloway Award: The Lisabeth A. Holloway Award for 2000 has been given to Judith (Robin) Overmier. Lilli Sentz accepted the award for Robin Overmier.

Outgoing President's report: Elaine Challacombe reported on the highlights of her tenure, stressing the need to utilize the Internet more fully by expanding the organization's Web site and listserv.

Introduction of New President: Elaine Challacombe passed the gavel to Suzanne Porter, incoming President. Suzanne Porter spoke of her plans and priorities, including a formal budget, better documentation of ALHHS procedures, new duties for the president-elect, and the future of the education committee. Ms. Porter also gave Elaine Challacombe a gift on behalf of the membership.

ALHHS Web page: Katharine Donahue reported on the status of the Web site, including desirability of purchasing a domain name. There was a discussion of the pros and cons of mounting *The Watermark* on the Web.

ALHHS Archives: Charles Greifenstein reported on the status of the ALHHS archives at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. There was a discussion about whether the archives should remain at the College or perhaps be transferred to NLM/ The consensus was that the archives should remain in Philadelphia, but that ALHHS should appoint an archivist to coordinate reference, access, and records management issues with the College.

Invitation to the 2001 Annual Meeting: Jane Brown, 2001 Local Arrangements Chair, made a presentation about the 2001 Annual Meeting, which will be held in Charleston, South Carolina. There was a discussion about the difficulties raised by the NAACP tourism boycott of South Carolina. It was noted that AAHM has decided to go ahead with their plans to meet in Charleston, while the Sigerist Circle will honor the boycott. Several ALHHS members announced their intentions not to attend a South Carolina meeting as long as the boycott remains in effect.

Local Arrangements 2000: Stephen Greenberg, 2000 Local Arrangements Chair, updated the plans for lunch and the afternoon tours. He also introduced Inci Bowman, who described the Web exhibit of

Washington, DC sites in the history of medicine that she created for NLM. The site can be visited at <<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/medtour/medtour.html>>

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Greenberg
Interim Secretary/Treasurer

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FROM THE EDITOR

Having completed my second year as editor of *The Watermark*, I can report that each issue continues to present its own challenge, but that, in general, the job has become easier. I would like to thank all who have contributed material over the past year. A special thank you goes to our regular contributors: Liz Fee, Lucretia McClure, Lisa Mix, and Eric v.d. Luft; to our advertisers for their support; and to The New York Academy of Medicine for hosting *The Watermark*.

After contributing the column "From the 'Net'" for four years, Eric v.d. Luft has asked to step down, and his last column appeared in the Winter 1999-2000 issue. Eric's contribution will be greatly missed. As we look for Eric's successor, a committee has been formed to examine the role of the ALHHS Web site, including the possibility of mounting part of *The Watermark* on

the Web. As the committee begins to explore some of the issues, it will seek the guidance of *The Watermark* readers.

Lilli Sentz

EX LIBRIS

by Lucretia W. McClure

CONGRATULATIONS

to Margaret Ann Johnson, MLS, on her selection as the new Head of the Historical Research Center and thus the treasurer and director of the History of Medicine Associates Program of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library. Following a nationwide search, the Committee announced her selection in late April. Her educational background includes a BS in Microbiology and Education from Louisiana Polytechnic Institute and a MLS from George Peabody of Vanderbilt University. A UAMS employee since 1973, Mrs. Johnson is currently Head of Document Access Services and was formerly Interlibrary Loan Librarian. Her knowledge of the UAMS Library's resources and University staff and faculty will make the transition a smooth one. She will assume her new position July 1, 2000, when Edwina Walls Mann retires.

And to

Maggie Yax who was awarded the Medical Library Association's 2000 Murray Gottlieb Award for her essay "War as Laboratory: Albert B. Sabin's Military Service and Its Influence on His Poliomyelitis Research and Development of the Oral Poliovirus Vaccine." The award was presented during the annual MLA meeting in Vancouver in May.

ON EXHIBIT

Currently on exhibit in the lower lobby of the Duke University Medical Center Library is a collection of apothecary jars ranging in date from the fifteenth century through the nineteenth century and representing a wide variety of styles. Several recent gifts to the History of Medicine Collections of items related to the pharmaceutical trade have also been

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included in the display: a lidded apothecary boiler, an early ceramic pill tile, and an American wood and copper pill rolling device.

Apothecary jars, known also as pharmacy jars or drug jars, were made in many shapes and sizes depending on their intended function. Dry drug jars were used for solid and viscous materials such as herbs, spices, candied fruits, honey, ointments, and electuaries. These were generally cylindrical with slightly concave sides. Wet drug jars were used for liquids such as syrups or oils and took the form of ovoid flasks or more frequently, syrup jars, which were bulbous on a high base with a spout and a handle. Most jars were designed with a rim over which a parchment bladder or cloth cover could be tied. In time, ceramic or metal lids were used. Pottery was not the only material that served for drug storage. In some areas of Europe the exact type of container was specified in local ordinances. Wood, pewter, and tin were employed; glass became especially important because it was relatively inexpensive and non-reactive with drugs. Like pottery, and later porcelain, it could be modeled into a wide variety of designs and decorated with ease.

Early decoration followed the Arab tradition of overall nonfigurative patterns. Later jars developed religious or secular scenes, coats of arms, medallion portraits, or symbols of a particular apothecary. Originally jars had no permanent label so they could be used and reused for a variety of drugs. A tag was tied around the neck or handle or a paper label was attached to the surface for identification. The practice of incorporating the name of the contents in the decoration of drug jars did not begin until the mid-fifteenth century. Inscriptions were often abbreviated in Latin or the

vernacular with the result that some drug names are today unidentifiable because of unorthodox shorthand or local meanings.

The exhibit continues through July 2000. Further information is available from Suzanne Porter, Curator, at (919) 660-1143 or <mailto:porte004@mc.duke.edu>.

JOYFUL EVENTS

The University of Cincinnati Medical Center celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the first citywide mass vaccination with Albert Sabin's oral poliovirus vaccine that took place in Cincinnati on April 24, 1960. The three-day celebration, held April 27-29, 2000, included a scientific symposium on infectious diseases, a panel discussion on current biomedical research, activities at the Children's Museum, exhibits, a formal dinner and dance, as well as tours and presentations at the Hauck Center for the Sabin Archives of the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center. One of the highlights was the naming of Bethesda and Elland Avenues (Dr. Sabin's address at the Children's Hospital Research Foundation for more than thirty years) the Albert Sabin Way. Distinguished guests from around the world, including the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control, pharmaceutical companies, as well as friends and family of Dr. and Mrs. Sabin, attended.

* * *

The Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center served as host for the annual meeting of the Ohio Academy of Medical History on April 15, 2000. The event was held in the lecture hall, adjacent to the foyer, of the University of Cincinnati's newest building, the Vontz Center for Molecular Studies, where attendees could view the permanent Sabin Exhibit. One of the many interesting presentations was by Dr. Enrique Pantoja who brought his outstanding sculptural work, an allegorical view of the history of medicine, for the group to see.

* * *

Dr. W. Alan Gabbey of Barnard College, Columbia University, was the featured speaker on the topic "Mind, Body, and the Edinburgh Medical Men" at the second annual Southern Association for the History

of Medicine and Science conference held February 18-19 in Birmingham, Alabama. Papers were presented from scholars across the country, including Emory University, Tulane University, the University of Iowa, the University of Massachusetts, Dunbarton Oaks Center for Byzantine Studies, and many others. The conference was sponsored by the Historical Collections Unit and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the University of Alabama, the University of Southern Mississippi and included support from the School of Medicine and School of Social and Behavioral Sciences of UAB.

Planning for next year's meeting has begun and Michael Flannery, Reynolds Historical Library, UAB, would be glad to hear suggestions for speakers, papers, themes or locations. No site has been selected as yet. Please contact him at flannery@uab.edu.

GOOD NEWS—PRINT AND DIGITAL

The Health Sciences and Human Services Library of the University of Maryland recently received a significant gift, the Florence P. Kendall Physical Therapy Collection. Highly revered as a noted author, lecturer, and clinician, Florence Kendall embodies much of the development of physical therapy as a professional allied health discipline. A prominent figure at the national level, she is a lifetime member of the Maryland Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association, having served as the chapter's founder and first president. Among her many professional accomplishments are her efforts to enact legislation that provided for the professional certification of practicing physical therapists.

The collection consists of 112 volumes of mostly twentieth-century works, devoted to topics such as

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anatomy, muscle structure and function, orthopedics, and stretching. Of particular note is her work entitled *Muscles, Testing and Function*. Originally published in 1949, it has been published in eight other language editions. Many of the volumes are extensively illustrated, serving as outstanding clinical practice manuals, and they range in tone from the scholarly to the popular. Many of the contemporary authors inscribed their volumes to Florence Kendall personally as tributes to her contributions as teacher and mentor.

The collection was officially dedicated by the Library at the event celebrating Ms. Kendall's ninetieth birthday in April. In conjunction with the celebration, she was featured as the subject of the cover article in the May, 2000, issue of *PT Magazine*. Further information is available from Richard Behles, Historical Librarian at (410) 706-5048 or <mailto:rbehles@hshsl.umaryland.edu>.

* * *

The Clendening History of Medicine Library & Museum is pleased to announce the availability of the Digital Clendening at <http://clendening.kumc.edu/dc>.

The Digital Clendening, as with many Web sites, is a work in progress. Currently it consists of eight collections:

Rare Text Images includes hundreds of images (most with explanatory notes) taken from the Library's internationally recognized collection of rare medical texts.

The Portrait Collection is an alphabetical list of the Library's collection of portraits of medical men and women with links to the scanned image.

The Ralph Herman Major Photograph and Slide Collection provides an inventory of Dr. Major's collection of historical medical sites, figures, and artifacts. Many of these photographs were used in Dr. Major's well-known work, *A History of Medicine*. Currently, there are links to several images from the inventory; plans call for all photographs to be scanned and added to the site.

The Samuel J. Crumbine Papers include a finding aid to the Library's twenty-eight linear feet of Crumbine material. Future plans call for digitization of much of the collection. The Rudolf Virchow Manuscripts include translations, transcriptions, and annotations of a small percentage of the Library's Virchow material. The complete collection will eventually be added.

The Chinese Public Health Posters (1930s to early 1950s) include images and translations of nine of the Library's twenty-nine posters in this category. The remainder will be added soon.

The Japanese Medical Woodblocks include images of all Library holdings in this category. Explanation and interpretation of the prints is forthcoming.

The Florence Nightingale Letters have been available since 1995. This collection now contains thirty-nine letters with annotations. Further information is available from Kelly Brown at kbrown@kumc.edu.

* * *

The Historic Collections at Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, announces the debut of its new Web site at <<http://www.med.upenn.edu/paharc>>.

Included on the site is a finding aid describing the archival records of the nation's first hospital, founded in 1751 by Benjamin Franklin and Dr. Thomas Bond. The archives at Pennsylvania Hospital trace the development of health care and public policy since the mid-1700s. The wide range of materials consists of Board of Manager minutes, admission and discharge records, administrative and financial records, personal correspondence of physicians and superintendents, and records of other organizations absorbed by the hospital such as the Preston Retreat, the Lying-In Charity, and the Philadelphia Dispensary. Today, Pennsylvania Hospital is a major teaching and research institution, offering a full range of medical and therapeutic services. Further information is available from Margo Szanbunia, Archivist, at (215) 829-5434 or szabunim@pahosp.com.

* * *

The Rare Books and Special Collections Department of the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine has received \$100,000 in grants to catalog several collections of personal papers. A \$50,000 donation from Mrs. E. P. Richardson, Jr., will be used to catalog the Richardson Family papers, and a \$50,000 donation from the NARA Fund will be used to catalog the papers of Mary Lee Ingbar and the late Sidney Ingbar. The grants are funding a two-year position, to which Alyson Reichgott, formerly of the Massachusetts Historical Society and the John F. Kennedy Library, has been appointed.

* * *

The University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) project to revise and link finding aids to its Special Collections' homepage has added sixteen collections to the Web site. The first list was announced in the Spring 2000 issue of *The Watermark*. A list describing vertical file subject headings has also been added. Links are now available to finding aids for the following:

American Association for Cancer Education Records
Elmer Family Papers

Felix H. Vann, M.D. Papers
Medical Alliance of the Medical Society of New Jersey Records
Medical History Society of New Jersey Records
Morris H. Saffron, M.D. Papers
New Jersey Medical History Postcard Collection
New Jersey AIDS Collection
New Jersey College of Medicine & Dentistry Records
Newark City Hospital School of Nursing Records
Seton Hall College of Medicine & Dentistry Records
UMDNJ-New Jersey Aids Education & Training Center Records
UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School Records
UMDNJ-School of Health Related Professions Records
UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Medicine Records
UMDNJ-University Behavioral HealthCare Records

The UMDNJ-Special Collections homepage can be reached at <<http://www.umdj.edu/librweb/newarklib/speccoll.htm>>. Further information is available from Lois Densky-Wolff, Head of Special Collections, at (973) 972-7830 or densky@umdj.edu.

GOOD LISTENING

The Golden Anniversary Lecture of the University of Alabama School of Nursing was presented, along with a museum exhibit and book signing, on June 13, 2000, at the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham. The lecture was given by Anita Smith, author of *The First Fifty Years: From Tuscaloosa to Birmingham*. The history of the school is chronicled in a display at the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences on the third floor of the Library. The exhibit will be on display through August.

* * *

The C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society Lecture series for the coming year will include the following speakers. All lectures are held in the Lecture Room #5 in Scaife Hall, University of Pittsburgh at 6 p.m. A dinner for members and their guests follows the lectures.

September 19: Gerald L. Geison, Ph.D., Professor of History of Science, Princeton University, speaking on "Did Pasteur Cheat? Does It Matter?"

November 2: Seventh Annual Sylvan E. Stool History of Medicine Lecture. Steven M. Zeitels, M.D., Associate Professor, Departments of Otology and Laryngology, Harvard Medical School, speaking on "Two Centuries of Medical Management of the Human Voice."

January 23: Peter Safar, M.D., Distinguished Professor of Resuscitation Medicine, University of Pittsburgh, speaking on "On Resuscitation Medicine: 1000-2000 C.E."

March 1: Paul J. Edelson, M.D., Professor of Clinical Pediatrics in the Center for the Study of Society and Medicine, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, speaking on "An Episode in the History of Clinical Trials: The N.Y.C. Diphtheria Antiserum Trials of 1899."

April 5: Thirteenth Annual Mark M. Ravitch History of Medicine Lecture. Maarten Ultee, Ph.D., Professor, Department of History, University of Alabama, speaking on "Breast Cancer Surgery as Amputation: Reconsidering Halsted's 'Complete Method.'"

Further information is available from Jonathon Erlen, at (412) 648-8927 or <mailto:erlen@pitt.edu>.

PRESERVATION NEWS

The New York Weill Cornell Medical Center Archives, in conjunction with the Preservation Department of the Cornell University Library in Ithaca, is participating in a two-year \$135,405 grant funded cooperative preservation microfilming project supported by the New York State Program for Conservation/Preservation. Columbia's College of Physicians and Surgeons and New York University Medical Archives are participants as well.

The project will preserve on microfilm the *Medical and Surgical Registers of the New York Hospital* containing handwritten narrative accounts as well as detailed medical histories of the patients admitted to the Medical and Surgical Wards of the Hospital. There are approximately 762 linear feet of medical and surgical case records of the New York Hospital when it was located at its second home, 15th and 16th Streets between 5th and 6th Avenues. The Hospital opened on March 16, 1877, and closed at the end of August

1932, when the current Medical Center opened for patients. The medical and surgical records of the "first" New York Hospital, comprising 117 volumes covering the period of 1808-1870 and taking up only twenty-seven linear feet have already been microfilmed under a previous grant from the National Library of Medicine.

These casebooks have several pages per patient, starting from the date of admission through discharge or death and often including a detailed autopsy record. The records for the 1890s and twentieth century contain many pages per patient and include printed charts of vital signs, medication sheets, and progress notes. The information given in the first page of each record includes the date of birth, nationality, occupation, and marital status of the patient. Also recorded are the physical exam and an admitting diagnosis. The admitting doctor records any family history that relates to the illness and often comments on the physical and moral state of the patient. These records provide an historical snapshot of the era including the social structure in New York City, as well as the prevalence of diseases such as tuberculosis, syphilis, and alcoholism among certain groups or individuals, including the immigrants arriving at the Port of New York who were forced to live in slums. Descriptions of diseases that have been seen rarely in recent years, but are returning, such as tuberculosis, cholera, and malaria, are commonly found in these casebooks.

The grant will provide for microfilming 66,000 frames of these important and heavily used documents. Each casebook is approximately 14" by 10" with about 600 pages per casebook. The volumes are awkward to use and, because of their size and fragile condition, cannot be photocopied. There are 250 volumes for the years 1877 to 1900 and about one-half of the collection will be microfilmed through this project.

* * *

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia continues to work on preservation and access projects funded by a \$175,000 grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services in 1998.

One major task was recently accomplished: the rehousing of the Sturgis Collection. Named for

Samuel B. Sturgis (1891-1983), the collection contains a significant portion of the Library's prints and photographs as well as material such as lecture cards, early diplomas, and broadsides, a collection totaling more than 8,000 items. Dr. Sturgis, a great contributor to the Collection, personally oversaw its original cataloging, beginning in 1940. Unfortunately, the original housing was an archival nightmare as the folios were not acid-free, the sleeves holding images were acidic and, worst of all, items were attached to the sleeves with cellophane tape. Thanks to the work done by Philadelphia's Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA), the Sturgis Collection has been rehoused in labeled, acid-free sleeves and put in archival boxes.

A major project goal of the IMLS grant nearing completion is the phase boxing of 1,500 rare books. Charles Greifenstein, coordinator of the various grant projects for Library Director Marjorie Smink, constructed a database in Access to track the books being conserved. The database can track dates and types of treatment as well as information on the condition of the books. In addition, the labels for the phase boxes are printed from the tables in the database that contain portions of the MARC record cut and pasted from the Library's OPAC.

Fifty of the College's incunabula are being conserved with the IMLS grant. Those selected have original or very old bindings that in many cases have studs or clasps that protrude from the boards. Provisionally protected by pieces of cardboard, the volumes with studs and clasps will be fitted with clamshell boxes to provide protection both to those volumes and to those adjacent on the shelves. The fifty incunabula will be entered in the database, with more detail about their condition and appearance than post-1500 books.

Another aspect of the grant is the cataloging of approximately 350 books and pamphlets purchased and donated over the past ten years. The material will especially enhance the College's holdings on phrenology and domestic medicine.

Enhancements to the College's Web site and OPAC are being developed as part of the grant. A digital library, tentatively called the Historical Medical Digital Library (HMDL), will not feature complete books but rather digitized portions of books important in the

history of medicine. Selection for digitization will be based on two criteria: 1. the books were conserved using IMLS funds and 2. they are listed in Garrison and Morton's Bibliography. The HMDL will permit "digital browsing," so that patrons can "virtually" pull a book off the shelf and examine it. Selected parts of books, including frontispieces, title pages, tables of contents, indexes, plates, and portions of text will be available for online browsing. Clicking on the call number will bring up the full MARC record from the OPAC. Clicking on the Garrison and Morton number will pull up a brief explanation of the significance of the book and its author and any special provenance of the copy itself. The HMDL, available through the College of Physicians homepage at <<http://www.collphyphil.org>> was demonstrated at the recent AAHM conference in Bethesda, Maryland.

There will also be a "back-door" way into the scanned portions of the books. The 856 field in MARC allows for electronic access. When the record of a book that has had portions of it scanned is pulled up through the Web-based catalog, a click on the "Electronic Access" field will pull up the scanned portions. As of this writing, the URLs for electronic access are being modified, but one test book should be available. Go to <<http://atlas.hslc.org:8007/MARION?key=Dd+lla&ind=c>> to see the title page of John Redman Coxe's copy of the English version of Nathaniel Hodges' account of the London plague of 1665. You may also search the catalog at <http://atlas.hslc.org:8007/MARION>, call number Dd lla. In either case click on "TITLE PAGE" in the field labeled Electronic Access. Further information is available from Charles Greifenstein, Curator of Archives and Manuscripts, at (215) 563-3737 ext. 275 or <mailto:greifenstein@collphyphil.org>.

GOOD READING

Three articles by Eric v.d. Luft of the Health Sciences Library, SUNY Upstate Medical University, were recently published:

"Rene-Theophile-Hyacinthe Laennec, 1781-1826, French Physician and Inventor." In: *Science and Its Times: Understanding the Social Significance of Scientific Discovery*, edited by Neil Schlager and Josh Lauer. V. 5, 1800-1899. Detroit: Gale Group, 2000: 361-362.

"Rene Laennec Revolutionizes the Diagnosis of Chest Diseases with His Invention of the Stethoscope." In: *Science and Its Times: Understanding the Social Significance of Scientific Discovery*, edited by Neil Schlager and Josh Lauer. V. 5, 1800-1899. Detroit: Gale Group, 2000: 282-285.

"Sarah Loquen Fraser, MD (1850 to 1933): The Fourth African-American Woman Physician." *J Natl Med Assoc* 92(3):149-153, March 2000.

* * *

An article, "South Carolina and Hill-Burton," by Jane McCutchen Brown of the Waring Historical Library, Charleston, was published in the *J South Carolina Med Assoc* 96(3):126-130, March 2000.

* * *

"Beyond Polio: Albert B. Sabin, World War II and Tropical Medicine" by Maggie Yax of the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center was published in the *Ohio Archivist* Spring 2000 issue.

STAFF NEWS

The New York Academy of Medicine Library announces with regret that Lois Fischer Black has resigned as Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts after eight years at the Academy. She will be joining her husband in North Carolina and taking on an exciting job as Curator of Manuscripts at North Carolina State University. She will be greatly missed.

Ed Morman reports that Caroline Duroselle-Melish has agreed to serve as Acting Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts until a search for the position has been completed. The Historical Collections Department of the Academy recently hired Constance Malpas as Research Associate. She is a doctoral candidate in History of Science with an interest in the history of museums and museology. She will be assisting in the Rare Book Room as well as working on special projects relating to the Library's collection of artifacts. He expressed his appreciation for the assistance of Lilli Sentz, Special Projects Librarian, and Dr. Luigia Norsa, Library volunteer, for their services, especially in this time of staff shortage.

NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME LIBRARY

Archives and Manuscripts in the Wellcome Library for the History and Understanding of Medicine

The staff of the Contemporary Medical Archives Centre (CMAC) and Western Manuscripts Section have been aware for some time that their roles and work have drawn closer together. As common automation of their finding aids is anticipated in the near future, a merger is considered timely. This will take place from 1 July 2000, when the two sections will unite as Archives and Manuscripts in the Wellcome Library.

Julia Sheppard will be Archivist and Richard Aspin Deputy Archivist. Lesley Hall becomes Senior Assistant Archivist (Outreach) and Christopher Hilton Senior Assistant Archivist (Finding Aids). Other staff in this section are Annie Lindsay and Helen Wakely (Assistant Archivists) and Amanda Engineer (Temporary Assistant Archivist).

The new section is responsible for ca. 8,000 manuscripts and over 650 archival collections dating from antiquity to the present day and documenting the Western medical tradition. It includes private papers of eminent figures such as Edward Jenner, Thomas Hodgkin, Florence Nightingale, Lord Lister, Richard von Krafft-Ebing, Marie Stopes and Melanie Klein as well as the records of organisations, professional bodies, pressure groups and others involved in medical research and healthcare such as the Royal Army Medical Corps Muniment Collection, Queen's Nursing Institute, Eugenics Society, Medical Women's Association, Mental After Care Association, Pioneer Health Centre, Family Planning Association, and the Patients' Association. Additional accessions to the archives and manuscripts are acquired by gift, bequest, deposit and purchase, and the collections are much in demand for research.

Current projects of the section include the Hospital Records Database (jointly with the Public Record Office) which has ca. 2900 entries and is available for online searching at <<http://hospitalrecords.pro.gov.uk/>> and via the Wellcome Library Web site, and the

Medical Archives and Manuscripts Survey (MAMS)1660-1945 (London entries soon to be available via the Library's Web site).

Further details of the holdings of the Archives and Manuscripts section and a list of publications for sale are available via the Library's Web site. Copies of the annual review 1998-99 are available from the address below.

Library Archives and Manuscripts Open: Mon, Wed, Fri 9.45-5.00; Tues, Thurs 9.45-7.00; Sat 9.45-1.00 (Archives prior appointment advised and evenings and Saturday by prior arrangement only)

Archives and Manuscripts
Wellcome Library
The Wellcome Building
183 Euston Road
London 2BE
E-mail: arch+mss@wellcome.ac.uk
URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/library>

ON THE WEB

By Lisa A. Mix

Image Archive on the American Eugenics Movement

<http://vector.cshl.org/eugenics.html>

A new Web site uses archival material to illustrate the history of the eugenics movement in the United States. The Image Archive on the American Eugenics Movement is a collaboration of four institutions: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory <<http://www.cshl.org>>, the American Philosophical Society Library <<http://www.amphilsoc.org/>>, Truman State University <<http://www.truman.edu/>>, and the Rockefeller Archives Center <<http://www.rockefeller.edu/archive.ctr/>>. The site was developed and resides at the DNA Learning Center at Cold Spring Harbor <<http://vector.cshl.org/>>, and uses images from all four institutions. It was funded by a grant from the Ethical, Legal and Social Implications Research Program of the National Human Genome Research Institute <<http://www.nhgri.nih.gov/>>.

It is evident that a great deal of careful preparation went into developing this site. An advisory board, con-

sisting of fourteen members from diverse institutions, spent two years dealing with issues of ethics and content. As a result, the content is scrupulously cited and documented, and materials are presented in a balanced manner. Every effort was made to preserve the dignity and confidentiality of individuals who were the subjects of eugenic research. In the images presented, all personal identifiers (for example, personal names and place names) have been removed from pedigrees, medical documents, and personal photographs.

This site shows exemplary use of archival material. It includes a database of over 1200 images of documents and photographs, many of which come from the collection of the Eugenics Record Office at Cold Spring Harbor (the center of American eugenics research from 1910 to 1940). The aim is to present the "unfiltered story" of the eugenics movement in the United States, letting the documents and photographs speak for themselves. That being said, the site contains a wealth of (not completely unbiased) contextual material. An introduction on the first page gives a brief overview of the eugenics movement. Nine essays explore aspects of the eugenics movement in more depth: "Social Origins", "Scientific Origins", "Research Methods", "Traits Studied", "Research Flaws", "Eugenics Popularization", "Marriage Laws", "Sterilization Laws", and "Immigration Restriction". Each essay opens in its own window, and is accompanied by several images, with a mixture of photographs and documents represented. The images in the essays carry reference numbers, to make them available for searching.

Searching can be done by reference number or by key words, or the reader can browse images in twenty-one special topics (such as "Circus Performers", "Eugenics Organizations" and "Religion"). Each topic presents a brief contextual "theme" along with the images. Each image opens in a new window, framed with cataloging information at the top. Readers have the options of formatting the image for printing, enlarging it to show detail, and requesting permission to publish. While the topic divisions are very useful, and searching by reference number is easy enough, it is somewhat difficult to search by keywords (except for searching by a proper name). There is no help page, and, thus, no sense of how to structure a keyword search. It seems as if the authors want users to search only within the twenty-one selected topics.

On a technical note, this site is not for those with low

end browsers. It makes extensive use of frames (a good use of frames, I should add; however, not every browser out there supports them). Additionally, in order to view the images, your browser will need a plugin: the "Flash Player." Text-only versions of the essays are available for those whose browsers are incapable of handling the images. However, to read the essays without viewing the images misses the point of the Web site.

This is a ground-breaking site that tells the story of a fascinating chapter in American history. It stands as a model for presenting historical health care records on the Web. I urge you to upgrade your browser (if necessary) and download the Flash Player, and then spend some time exploring the Eugenics Archive.

News: ALHHS Web site!

Of interest to all *Watermark* readers is the new Archivists & Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences Web site at <<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/biomed/alhhs/>>. The site is hosted by the History and Special Collections division of the Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library at UCLA, and was created by Katharine Donahue, Richard Davidon, and Russell Johnson. On the site is information about the Annual Meeting, membership, contact information for officers, and much more. Particularly useful is the Internet Resources page, leading readers to other sites in the history of the health sciences.

Other Web Sites of Interest

Remember to send urls of notable Web sites to <lmix@mail.jhmi.edu>. Also, you can read "On the Web" at <<http://www.med.jhu.edu/medarchives/mix/ontheweb.htm>>.

American National Biography Online
<http://www.anb.org>

Association Villard de Honnecourt for the Interdisciplinary Study of Science, Technology, and Art (AVISTA)
<http://www.avista.org>

The Harvey Project
<http://harveyproject.org>
Health Heritage Research Services *new URL

<http://www.healthheritageresearch.com/>

History of Anaesthesia Society *new URL
<http://www.histansoc.org.uk>

The International Society for the History of Medicine (ISHM) bilingual website/homepage
<http://www.neurobio.ucla.edu/ishm/ishmhome-eng.htm>
<http://www.neurobio.ucla.edu/ishm/ishmhome-fr.htm>

Iowa State University Library Special Collections Department *new URL
<http://www.lib.iastate.edu/spcl/index.html>

Macleay Museum Scientific Instrument Collection
<http://www.usyd.edu.au/su/macleay/csciinst.htm>

Medieval Institute (Western Michigan University)
<http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/index.html>

National Library of Medicine, illustrated catalog of Islamic medical manuscripts
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/arabic/arabichome.html>

National Museum of Health and Medicine, World War I photographs <http://natmedmuse.afip.org/collections/archives/agalleries/ww1/ww1.html>

Radford University Archives
<http://lib.runet.edu/archives>

The Science Museum, London - "Exhiblets"
<http://www.nmsi.ac.uk/collections/exhiblets/a.htm>

Technology in Australia 1788-1988
<http://www.austehc.unimelb.edu.au/tia/titlepage.html>

The Alfred Russel Wallace Page
<http://www.wku.edu/~smithch/index1.htm>
William H. Welch, A Tribute Exhibition
<http://www.med.jhu.edu/medarchives/welch/welcome.htm>

Guide to the William H. Welch Collection
<http://www.med.jhu.edu/medarchives/sgml/whw/WHW-D.htm>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The New York Academy of Medicine Library announces the winners of its 2000 fellowship competitions.

The Paul Klemperer Fellow in History of Medicine is Carla Bittel, a doctoral candidate in History at Cornell University. Ms. Bittel will use her fellowship for research on her dissertation, "Fighting Science with Science: Mary Putnam Jacobi and the Politics of Women's Health." Dr. Jacobi was the first woman elected to membership in the New York Academy of Medicine and eventually became chair of the Academy's Section on Neurology. Using the Academy's collections, Ms. Bittel hopes to document Mary Putnam Jacobi as a New York figure in the world of nineteenth-century medical women.

The winner of the Audrey and William H. Helfand Fellowship in the Medical Humanities is Richard Barney, Associate Professor of English at the University of Oklahoma. Prof. Barney's project is entitled "The Scatological Sublime: Repulsion and Transcendence in Early Modern England." Professor Barney's proposal indicated that he will make good use of the materials from the Academy's extensive collection of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century medical books.

The fellowships each carry a grant of up to \$5,000 and are open to all regardless of nationality or scholarly discipline. The Klemperer award requires at least four weeks' residence in the Academy Library. Preference for both is shown to projects requiring use of material held by the Academy Library, and to junior scholars or others who might have difficulty otherwise using collections in the Academy Library. For further information, contact the Office of the Associate Librarian for Historical Collections and Programs, New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Avenue, New York NY 10029; (212) 822-7314; or history@nyam.org.

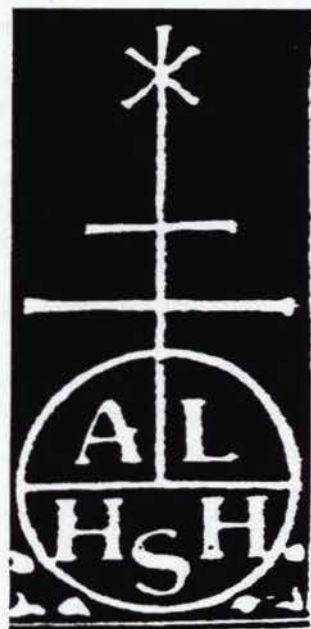
CALL FOR PAPERS

American Association for the History of Medicine
Charleston, SC, April 18-22, 2001

The American Association for the History of Medicine welcomes papers on topics related to the history of health and healing; of medical ideas, practices and institutions; the history of illness, disease, and public health from all eras and regions of the world. The program committee welcomes session proposals and proposals for luncheon workshops; the papers for such sessions will be judged on their individual merits.

All papers must represent original work not already published or in press. Because the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* is the official journal of the AAHM, the Association encourages speakers to make their manuscripts available for consideration by the *Bulletin*.

Please send six copies of a one page abstract (350 words maximum) to Janet Golden, History Department, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ 08102. Abstracts should not merely state a research question, but describe findings and conclusions. Please also provide the following: Name, preferred mailing address, work and home telephone numbers, present institutional affiliation, and academic degrees. Abstracts must be received by 15 September 2000. E-mail or faxed proposals will not be accepted.



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 Greenberg, interim ALHHS Secretary-Treasurer, National Library of Medicine, History of Medicine Division, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894; (301) 435-4995; FAX: (301) 402-0872; E-MAIL: stephen_greenberg@nlm.nih.gov.

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

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