Alone Together: Managing History of Medicine Collections in Non-Historical Environments (Part II)

Editor’s Note: This is the second part of the ALHHS program presented at the Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD, on May 18, 2000. The introduction by Thomas Horrocks, moderator of the program, and the presentations of Katharine Donahue and Joan Echtenkamp Klein were published in the Summer 2000 issue of The Watermark. Below follow the presentations of Billie Broaddus and Adele Lerner. Stephen Peitzman’s presentation will be published in the Winter issue.

Billie Broaddus
Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center

In today’s world, thirty seconds of information is the norm. If we do not entertain will no one listen? In fundraising, does the information have to dance or sing, i.e., MTV—think of NSYNC, one of the current boy bands, dancing on the ceiling. Do we use the Star Wars approach to get attention for these wonderful collections of archives and old books? In the future will the history of medicine librarian, archivist and information specialist become like the animated/automaton newswoman—Ananova? Plug us in and we perform on cue. Personally, my dilemma is that I do not want the archives and wonderful old books to dance and sing. To me, even after all these years, it is a marvel to view a first edition Vesalius or Harvey. It is a thrill to examine a book that is three, four, or five hundred years old and imagine who have read these works and examined their illustrations through the years.

In addition to the rare books and medical classics in history of medicine collections, consider the archives. The archivist does more than placing materials in acid-free folders and boxes. It takes intellectual organization and many hours of work and even years to complete a major collection. I understand the importance and use of technology in locating and even accessing collections. Nonetheless, do not the serious historian, researcher, writer, and student deserve and need well-organized information and a place to study the archives and writings of the scientists and physicians? Therefore, the question for the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center is how do we market our collections and services to gain the financial support that allows the operation to continue. Must we dance and sing or can our approach be more scholarly?

Currently, the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center is part of Academic Information Technology and Libraries. At AIT&L, fundraising is a priority. It is not our first experience in this endeavor. How did we get into the fundraising business five years ago and what did we learn from our efforts?

Briefly, the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center was formed in 1974 and moved in 1978 into its current location. It began with the organization of the University of Cincinnati Medical Center Libraries (MCL). During the early MCL organization, the challenge came from the Dean and Vice President of the Medical Center to create a history of medicine library from the old book collections. The University of Cincinnati College of Medicine is the tenth oldest medical school in the United States. Many of the nineteenth century Cincinnati physicians trained in Europe and collected thousands of books for their private libraries. Through the years, these books became part of the overall collections. There were at least 30,000-
40,000 books dating from 1500 to 1920 in the libraries of the College of Medicine, Cincinnati General Hospital, College of Pharmacy, and in private collections. These materials were brought together to form the Center’s book collection. In the beginning, there were no medical archives and very few museum items. Later, the medical archives that had been at Special Collections at the University Library were moved to the CMHC and departments and individuals began to donate museum items.

In our early days, an unofficial advisory committee was created to assist and advise the Director in developing collections, programs, and services. It included College of Medicine department chairs and emeriti, a history of medicine professor, the former Vice President of the Medical Center, and the Past President of the University of Cincinnati who is a historian. Each member had a great interest in the history of medicine and the history of the institution. This board later turned out to be quite important to our survival.

The CMHC collections were expanding with additional book purchases and museum and archive donations. New services were added, such as exhibit preparation and lecture series. These activities were drawing more people into the Center. Then, we had a change in administration. A new Vice President and Provost of Health Affairs arrived and let it be known that he did not like historical collections! The Advisory Committee and Director set out to try to change his viewpoint. We asked for a special meeting and presented our case, stressing the importance of the Center and its resources for the history of Cincinnati medicine.

We have to assume we did not convince him because later there was a plan to close the Center. No one had told the Center’s director about the plan or discussed it with the Advisory Committee. With the closing confirmed, the Advisory Committee began a plan of action to save the Center. Several Advisory Committee members were acquainted with the University of Cincinnati Board of Trustees and approached them with their concern for the collections. Personal contact was made with the University President and in our favor was the fact that the Chair of the University of Cincinnati Board of Trustees was an alumni and a physician. Following these discussions, it was decided that the Center would not be closed after all.

That was five years ago and the events led to our first fundraising efforts. In fact, that same Vice President and Provost of the Medical Center took the initiative and announced that the Advisory Committee would become an official Advisory Board. The goal of the board was to raise funds to support the Center and a full-time development person would be assigned to provide assistance for one year.

When fundraising at the University of Cincinnati, one has to work within the guidelines of the University of Cincinnati Board of Trustees.
sity of Cincinnati Foundation. This means you receive a list of prospective donors who you are able to approach. We received our list, an A list that had high priority, and we began.

We started with the Advisory Board members, the director, and the development person asking the advice of several successful local fund-raisers. Their advice was that you had to get the medical community involved before you could become successful. One member of the Advisory Board was on the Cincinnati Academy of Medicine Foundation. He assisted in laying the groundwork prior to our arranging a meeting to request funding. With his support, the Advisory Board Chair and the development person approached the Academy and made a request of $25,000 over five years—it was approved unanimously.

It was common knowledge that the Academy of Medicine and the Medical College did not have a good relationship. We set out to improve the community relationship by hosting a reception for Academy members and, on a separate occasion, invited the retired physicians and widows of physicians to lunch. We took the opportunity to show the services and programs that the CMHC had provided to Academy members and staff over the years.

For example, since 1981 the CMHC had mounted yearly exhibits on the history of medicine in Cincinnati at the Academy. Often the Center had worked with the editor of the Academy journal to provide photographs and biographical material on local physicians. We wined them and dined them and told stories about Cincinnati physicians; we displayed old medical instruments and artifacts from local medical families. As a result, and in addition to the Academy Foundation gift, many individual gifts from Academy members were received during that year and continue to be made. A new relationship was forged with the Academy when the CMHC Director was asked to serve as the only non-physician to the Academy History Committee.

During the year-long process, the development person, the CMHC director, and members of the Advisory Board took different avenues for fundraising. For example, special invitations were sent to families of physicians, including former faculty members, deans and department chairs. We invited them to tour the CMHC in small groups and large groups. We provided refreshments and presentations of the physician’s lives with their archives, photographs and other memorabilia. This resulted in some very nice personal gifts to the Center. Several Board members made private requests to acquaintances for donations. Grants were written for funding—some were successful and some were not. Drug companies, law firms, and corporations were contacted—sometimes we were successful and sometimes not.

In the early days of our fundraising, I called several of you in the audience today and asked questions on how you did fundraising and how successful were your efforts. I appreciate your advice and we used ideas from as many sources as possible.

The largest gift came in honor of Dr. Albert B. Sabin for the organization and preservation of his archives. The funding source was a local family foundation whose nearly 100-year-old Director, Frederick Hauck, knew Dr. Sabin. It turned out that Dr. Hauck’s
young daughter had developed polio and he had consulted with Dr. Sabin. He had not forgotten the assistance and advice he had received from Dr. Sabin.

When the fundraising period ended, we celebrated by having a party to thank everyone and creating a donor board in the entrance of the Center to show our appreciation. The party was well attended and a few people made even larger donations after the event. We continue to receive both yearly and planned gifts. Our first fundraising efforts were successful, which, I believe, surprised many people.

The Future—The latest “State of the Medical Center Address” revealed plans for a merger into one education building. This would bring medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and allied health together to provide a team approach to health care education. The now separate libraries—the Health Sciences Library, the Nursing Library, and the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center would be merged as well. Another piece of the future puzzle is that I will retire in December 2002 or early 2003 after more than eighteen years at the Center and ten years at the Health Sciences Library. One of my goals in the next year is to assist in fundraising for the Center.

We have laid the intellectual groundwork for the organization. The researchers who access the collections either in-house, by e-mail, letter, or telephone appreciate the excellent and timely service provided by the staff. For the first time in our existence we have a director, archivist, part-time archivist, and staff assistant. Two of our most important successes in the last five years have been to prove that we can successfully raise money and that the medical community stands behind our efforts. Remember the Vice President and Provost of Health Affairs—he is now a strong supporter for the CMHC.

In the coming year, fundraising will be more of a challenge. We will not have a full-time development person and we will not be on the A List of the UC Foundation. Perhaps we will need to change our approach to fundraising this time—we may have to automate, animate, dance, and sing using every technological trick available to promote our collections, services, and programs. I trust we will also continue to use a more formal approach with our donors.

Nonetheless, even with all the technology available, I still live by the quote from my favorite librarian, Lucretia McClure: “The mind of the librarian is a great resource, the most flexible and creative database in the library.” As long as the library researcher is provided with the resources that he or she needs, we will be successful. These resources will include that wonderful database, the mind, and library collections, archives, the Internet, and whatever future technology may bring. All will be used to assist us in meeting the information needs of our users in the twenty-first century. In the year 2000, the goal at the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center is to plan and implement a fundraising campaign that will allow us to continue serving our historical community.

Adele Lerner
New York Weill Cornell Medical Center

When Tom Horrocks first asked me to be a part of the ALHHS program, I strongly resisted. After all, I am an archivist, and I believe that most of the members of ALHHS are primarily rare book and manuscript curators. Also, I am not part of a library and the university I am associated with is 400 miles away. Well, Tom prevailed.

As I prepared for this presentation, I became more and more depressed since my thoughts focused on my failures rather than the successes of my archival program. I have often said that archivists must be masochists, since few people understand or appreciate
what we do. And I feel that the Archives is not sufficiently valued by the New York Weill Cornell Medical Center, although it is appreciated by historians and outsiders. Strangely, as the Archives grew and the collections increased and its prestige and scholarly usage increased, the monetary support first diminished greatly and then stayed the same through these many years of inflation.

The Archives is on the top floor of the Tower Building of the Medical Center. When researchers from within the Center arrive, they seem to think that it makes me happy to hear, "Oh, I didn't know you were here!" I have publicized the Archives within the Medical Center, regularly sending out an Information Bulletin about our collecting policies. The various Center publications often acknowledge the Archives and write about it. But we remain a "gee whiz" sort of place, discovered only after a researcher from within the Center has sought information without success in many places and finally someone suggests the Archives. I find myself frequently saying "you should have come here first." Even the Medical Library forgets to refer researchers to the Archives. And the recent extensive turn-over in staff at the Medical Center has made matters worse.

Having unburdened myself, now the details. The Medical Archives was a gleam in the eye of E. Hugh Luckey, President of the Center. In 1971 the Society of The New York Hospital was celebrating its bicentennial. We are the second oldest hospital in the United States, preceded by the Pennsylvania Hospital. Dr. Luckey was told by the historian hired to write the history of the Hospital that there were many records, but that he could not use them because they were scattered all over the Center and many were in fragile condition. Dr. Luckey had an interest in history, so he turned to Erich Meyerhoff, Cornell Medical College's Librarian and a Renaissance man, and asked Erich to see about establishing an archives.

Jane Zaidi was hired and started the ball rolling, but left shortly to join her husband in Brazil. Erich knew of my interest in history and, in October 1972, hired me. Unfortunately, neither Jane nor I were trained archivists, though both graduates of Columbia's School of Library Service. In fact, there were not many archivists around in 1972 in New York. I visited my colleagues in Ithaca, took the course in Archival Management offered by the National Archives, attended a week-long seminar at the New England Document Conservation Center, a course offered by the American Management Association on records management and spoke with archivists around the nation in an effort to learn my new profession. Much of this training was enabled by a pilot grant from NLM to establish a "true" archives in an academic medical center.

I phrased this as "true" archives, because, unlike my colleagues on this panel, I do not have responsibility for rare books or manuscripts unless related to the Medical Center. In New York City there are the Academy of Medicine and the Columbia Health Sciences Library, both with fine collections.

The Archives of the New York Weill Cornell Medical Center is charged with collecting, organizing, preserving, and making available the official records of the Center and its predecessors, which include several women and children's hospitals, and a school of nursing that went from distinction to extinction, 1877-1979. We also collect the papers of prominent persons associated with the Center, including George N. Papanicolaou who did all his research on exfoliative
cytology and the “Pap smear” at our Medical Center. The handouts tell you more about our program and our collecting and reference policies. The archival program, which has been up and running for approximately twenty-eight years, has acquired over 6,500 linear feet of paper records, 25,000 photo images, 1,700 films and videos, over 2,000 audio tapes, and 75 oral histories. There is also the Reichert Collection of Diagnostic Instruments, housed in the Faculty Board Room but part of my responsibility and approximately 550 instruments and biomedical artifacts. Some of the artifacts are displayed in our entrance area. We do exhibits at the entrance to the Medical College as well. The staff currently consists of myself—I am a Certified Archivist—and a Senior Archival Assistant, Jim Gehrlich. He has been working in the Archives for six years. He has a Master’s degree in history and, with Cornell’s financial assistance, he is currently getting a Certificate in Archival Management from NYU. I report to the Assistant Dean for Information Resources and I also interact with the Corporate Secretary of The New York Presbyterian Hospital, who is most supportive of the Archives. Other than myself, the staffing over the twenty-eight years has varied. At the start there were several assistants trained in librarianship. About seventeen years ago a second professional position was approved and Barbara Niss, a graduate of the NYU archival program and currently the archivist at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City, came to the Medical Center. It was wonderful! She was followed by Steve Novak, currently Head of Special Collections at Columbia’s Health Sciences Library. Twelve years ago this second professional position was lost, so I’ve had a string of bright, but untrained assistants. Jim has assured me that he’ll be around for a while… a great relief. Although he is not on the academic faculty, as I am, I have recently been able to have him qualified as a senior exempt employee with good fringe benefits. Since there are major money troubles at the Medical Center, I doubt if I can increase the staff, but I keep trying! I formerly had many volunteers, particularly from the Payne Whitney Day Hospital. These were people recovering from psychiatric problems: they were dedicated to their work in the Archives and helped process many collections of records. There is no longer a Day Hospital and the volunteers offered to me are of varied skills, difficult to train, and not as dedicated to their work—although I do have one person who has been volunteering for sixteen years. The budget of the Archives is small and does not account for special purchases, such as computers and software, no less staff.

The Archives budget, after the initial $12,000 startup given in 1971 by Dr. Luckey, has been as follows. Three glorious years supported by an NLM grant and twenty-five years of scraping by. A primary need was to build an archival facility. There was one floor on the top of the Hospital’s main tower building, used for the storage of old mattresses and unwanted cabinets. I was told that this space would be available for the Archives, if I could get outside funding for the renovation. I did get a grant from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation. The twenty-fifth floor was renovated and includes an office, a processing room, a reference room and stacks. Unfortunately the $100,000 grant was not enough to provide HVAC in our antiquated building. For twenty-six years I have been trying to get proper environmental controls in the Archives, but I have had no luck so far. Back to the budget. Essentially, for the last eleven years I’ve had $10,000 shared equally by the Hospital and the Medical College. Salaries for myself and Jim are also shared, although money had to be taken from a gift account to increase Jim’s salary for his new senior position. Dr. and Mrs. Philip Reichert made major contributions to support the Reichert Collection and the Archives in general. This is the discretionary fund that I can use but not deplete. The new computers and Minaret Archival Management software were purchased through a gift from the

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Medical College Class of 1986—but the Development Department tried to take this away since the Archives is not a “designated priority” for donations. Because the amount was so small, the Dean let the Archives keep it. I also get gifts from former faculty, staff and alumni who know about and appreciate the Archives. This year our outgoing CEO of the Hospital designated funds to buy new chairs for the reference room and new desks for Jim and me. This is after twenty-five years of heavy usage. Finally, the NLM funding plus two grants from New York State have enabled the microfilming of the oldest, most unique records and, currently, the patient case records through 1900.

Historians have said that this run of case records from 1808 to 1932 is unique and it has been well used by researchers. Tom asked me to mention how I spend my time. A large percentage of my time is spent on finding money and making certain that we get the records that are designated to go to the Archives. I have found that personal contact is very important—being known and knowing the key people. My pleasure is to do reference and I always spend time with the scholarly researchers. And of course, going that extra bit in answering a reference request from the Dean pays off. And I follow up on such service by reminding the Dean that we can answer his questions only if we have the records in the Archives, so send them to us. We have just accessioned records from his office that amount to 52 feet of materials. A former employee of the Medical College, who is now working part time, will be processing the records in the Archives under my direction, but the Office of the Dean is paying her salary. I harass people who are leaving or retiring to remind them that their official business records belong to the Medical Center and should be sent to the Archives and I ask them to donate their personal papers, where appropriate. We provide the acid-free boxes. I spend an inordinate amount of time on this.

What I really need is a records management program and for almost twenty-seven years I have been trying to implement one. Soon after I started at the Center, a Senior Director of the Hospital funded me for a week-long course in records management taught by the American Management Association. She and I both believed that the Medical Center needed an organized program that would identify and preserve the records of enduring value. We needed a survey of existing record keeping practices in all departments and a scheduling of records for retention and ultimate disposition, either trash or archives. Such a program would not only save the Center money and space, but I would not need to scurry about seeking records hither and yon. I am trying to make light of this, but my failure to institute records management does lie heavily on my archival soul.

What are the challenges currently faced, besides just staying in existence. We desperately need more space if, as we must, we continue to accession records. We need proper environmental controls. A better presence on the Internet is becoming a reality, as our Web site is being improved with the help of the Medical College’s computer personnel. A year ago we purchased Minaret, an archival management software package. Jim has been entering the records from our twenty-seven-year-old card catalog into Minaret in MARC format. Our aim is to upload these into RLIN and/or OCLC. We do have some records currently in RLIN, but they were put in long ago and many are incorrect. Ultimately, we will mount some of our finding aids onto our Web site. And we do have a small picture show on the Web already. The need for a records management program becomes greater as the turnover of personnel accelerates and more records are being created and kept in digital format only.

Three years ago I wrote a “vision statement” with my goals for the long term. I am pleased that some of them have been achieved, particularly deal-
ing with automation. However, there is so much still to be done. So, how do you judge the success of your archival program. I have been told that you judge an archives by its collections. From the point of view of researchers, I think that the Archives of the New York Weill Cornell Medical Center is a great success. From an archivist’s point of view, it is sad. And, as I said at the start, I am an archivist.

**NEWS FROM HMD**

By Elizabeth Fee

I have not written this column for several months because of the general excitement involved in organizing the history of medicine annual meeting in Bethesda in May 2000. We were very glad to see so many members of the ALHHS and to attend the excellent ALHHS program as well as to participate in the round of activities associated with the ALHHS and AAHM meetings, including the medieval exhibition and reception held here at NLM.

Now that we have settled down to a more normal schedule, I’d like to announce some recent additions to the HMD staff. John Rees has joined HMD as Assistant Curator of Archives and Modern Manuscripts and James Labosier as Library Technician for Archives and Manuscripts; they have already created a searchable database of HMD’s modern manuscript collection accessible through the HMD Web site (see <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/manuscripts/MssColl.html>). The “non-books” collections are developing rapidly under Paul Theerman’s expert supervision. Earlier this year, we were happy to welcome Jan Lazarus as the new Collection Manager for the Prints and Photographs Collection and Nancy Dosch as Collection Manager for Historical Audiovisuals. A large new space on B3 has recently been renovated for their use and to allow better storage/access to these collections.

We were also happy to welcome new staff members to the Exhibition Program. Michael Sappol officially joined the permanent staff as historian/exhibition curator last May after having worked with us for some time on a consulting basis. Margaret Hutto joined the program as Registrar and Jiwon Kim is working with us as educator/outreach specialist. (Jiwon now offers regular exhibition tours every Wednesday and at other times by special arrangement.) Hunter Crowther-Heyck and Elizabeth Wood are currently with the program on a consulting basis, and Susan Speaker has recently accepted a position as historian/curator.

The exhibition team is hard at work preparing a major new exhibition to open in May 2001. They were also responsible for preparing a traveling DVD exhibition of “Breath of Life” which opened in Chicago in May 2000. For the online version of “Breath of Life,” see <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/breath/breathhome.html>. We released several new Web sites in May 2000. Perhaps the most spectacular is the first phase of “Islamic Medical Manuscripts at the National Library of Medicine” <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/arabic/arabichome.html>, an extended guide to the nearly 400 Persian and Arabic manuscripts in the National Library of Medicine. Emilie Savage-Smith, Senior Research Associate in the Oriental Institute of the University of Oxford, prepared the text, glossary, and bio-bibliographies. The Web site includes many color photographs of the manuscripts. We hope to mount phase 2 of this Web site in the coming year.
Our “Profiles in Science” project continues with the mounting of extensive archival collections of the papers of selected Nobel Laureates. In May 2000, the papers of Julius Axelrod were added to the site. Axelrod is a pharmacologist and neuroscientist who shared the 1970 Nobel Prize for discoveries concerning humoral transmitters in nerve terminals, their storage, release, and inactivation. Last November 1999 we posted a selection from the papers of Martin Rodbell. Rodbell was a biochemist and molecular endocrinologist who shared the Nobel Prize in 1994 for the discovery of G-proteins and their role in signal transduction.

Each digital collection consists of two parts: first is an introductory narrative on the scientist’s life and work with between 60 and 75 noteworthy documents (text, audiotapes, video clips, and photographs). This introductory “exhibit” is intended for students and visitors with little background in science. The second section is intended for more specialized researchers; it provides additional papers and documents available through a search engine, in alphabetical and chronological “views.” The “Profiles in Science” collections are particularly strong in the areas of cellular biology, genetics, and biochemistry but also reflect issues in such areas as health and medical research policy, the application of computers in medicine, science education, and the search for extraterrestrial life. New collections are being processed and will be added in the future.

For those interested in local medical history, a Web tour of 30 historic medical sites has been created by Inci Bowman and is available from the HMD homepage for your armchair touring pleasure.

In the last six months, the HMD Web sites have been visited almost 2,000,000 times. We are working hard to develop these resources further and hope you will find many occasions to visit us.

For those who can visit in person, we have a new exhibit called Joshua Lederberg: Science and the Public Interest, on view in the Lobby outside the Division. It will be on display through the end of 2,000 and is being held in celebration of Dr. Lederberg’s 75th birthday. Approximately 5,000 items relating to Lederberg’s life and work may now be accessed through the “Profiles in Science” Web site.

Among other news items of importance, we were particularly delighted that this spring, James H. Cassedy received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the American Association of the History of Medicine.

**EX LIBRIS**

By Lucretia W. McClure

**ON EXHIBIT**

The Historical Library, the Cushing/Whitney Medical Library of Yale University, has mounted its first online historical exhibit, *New Haven’s Hospitals*, an adaptation of the current exhibit in the Library’s rotunda. The address is <http://info.med.yale.edu/library/exhibits/hospitals/>. The Library is preparing a series of exhibits on the history of the Yale School of Medicine, the Yale School of Nursing, and the School of Epidemiology and Public Health, as well as a his-

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tory of the Medical Library, to celebrate the Tercen­
tenial of the founding of Yale in 2001. The exhibits
will be displayed in the Library’s rotunda and then
mounted on the Web.

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The Four Seasons, a set of unique seventeenth cen­
tury copperplate engravings from the Trent Collection at the Duke University Medical Center Library,
will travel to England this Fall to be part of an exhibition at the Hayward Gallery in London. Spectacular Bodies: The Art and Science of the Human Body from Leonardo to Now opens on October 19, 2000, and runs through January 14, 2001. Martin Kemp, Professor of the History of Art at the University of Oxford, who has written widely on the relationships between representation in art and science, will serve as guest cu­rator.

Timed to coincide with this exhibition will be the re­lease by Duke University of an interactive CD Rom of the engravings. Their complex nature with multiple layers of superimposed flaps and volvelles lends itself beautifully to this technology. A metaphor for the ages of man, the prints illustrate not only human anatomy but are replete with illusions to alchemy, astro­logy, uroscopy, and palmistry. For more information, contact Suzanne Porter, Curator of the History of Medicine Collections at Duke University (919) 660-1143 or mailto:porte004@mc.duke.edu.

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The Warren Anatomical Museum, the widely-known collection at Harvard Medical school, is now under the aegis of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections of the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine. A major exhibit of many of the Museum’s finest and most unusual objects and specimens will be on display beginning late in September in conjunc­tion with the re-dedication of the newly-renovated Library.

The Museum was the gift of Dr. John Collins Warren (1778-1856). He collected interesting and unusual anatomical and pathological specimens as did many physicians of his day. He began collecting as early as 1799, and expanded the collection to assist in the teaching of medical students. When Dr. Warren resigned his Harvard professorship in 1847, most of the collection was presented to the school with an endowment of $5,000 to support its preservation.

The collection became one of this country’s leading medical museums. Physicians such as Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes and the first curator, Dr. John Barnard Swett Jackson, contributed anatomical specimens, models, instruments and medical memorabilia. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Warren Museum’s collection of both normal and pathological specimens served as an important re­source for the study and teaching of medicine. Origi­nally housed on North Grove Street in Boston, the Museum later moved with the Medical School to Boylston Street in 1883. In 1906, the Medical School moved to its present location on the Longwood Cam­pus. Because of increasing demands for space, the collection was removed from the Medical School and was placed in storage in 1998.

The Warren Museum contains some 13,000 items in­cluding anatomical and pathological specimens, ana-
tomical models, photographs, paintings, drawings, medical instruments and machines, and other medical memorabilia. In addition to the famous skull of Phineas Gage, the Museum contains many rare and interesting objects. Among them are the Phrenological Collection of Johann Gaspar Spurzheim, a variety of Auzoux paper-mache anatomical models, the Oliver Wendell Holmes microscope collection, and the ether inhaler created by Dr. W. T. G. Morton that was used in the first ether-assisted operation performed by John C. Warren at Massachusetts General Hospital in 1846.

The exhibit was mounted in the Library’s Museum Exhibition Gallery by Virginia Hunt, the Museum’s Curatorial Assistant. A companion exhibit featuring materials about the Warren Family was prepared by Reference Librarian Jack Eckert for the Rare Books and Special Collections Exhibit cases.

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The Nightingale’s Song: Nurses and Nursing in the Ars Medica Collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, an informative look at the fascinating history and varied facets of the nursing profession, is on view at the Berman Gallery of the Philadelphia Museum of Art through October 29, 2000. Drawn entirely from the Museum’s remarkable Ars Medica Collection, the eighty prints, drawings, and photographs span six centuries and four continents. The exhibit includes late-fifteenth-century Europe (the treatment of a German plague victim) to mid-nineteenth-century Asia (Florence Nightingale’s military hospital in Turkey during the Crimean War) to twentieth-century Africa (a Red Cross tent in Zaire in the 1920s) and the United States (the back-road rounds of Maude Callen, an African American mid-wife in North Carolina in the 1950s). The messages conveyed by these works are equally broad, ranging from the inspiring or cautionary to the satirical, the charming, and the downright funny.

The Nightingale’s Song is the third in a recent series of topical exhibitions of works on paper selected from the Ars Medica Collection by William H. Helfand, a noted authority on the history of art and medicine, and author of the fully-illustrated catalogs that accompany the series. He organized the exhibition with John Ittmann, Curator of Prints in the Museum’s Department of Prints, Drawings, and Photography. Funding for the publication accompanying the exhibit was made possible by Bayada Nurses in association with the Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. Comprised of more than 2,500 prints, drawings, photographs and rare books housed in the Museum’s Department of Prints, Drawings and Photographs, the Ars Medica Collection offers a remarkable view of the complex interrelationships between the worlds of medicine, pharmacy, public health and the visual arts. The Collection was developed with the support of a series of grants from the Philadelphia pharmaceutical firm SmithKline Beecham and others and includes the group of prints, posters, and ephemera presented by Mr. Helfand. For further information, call (215) 763-8100 or visit the Museum’s Web site at <http://www.philamuseum.org>.

GOOD LISTENING


September 7, 2000: John G. Classe, O.D., J.D. Professor of Optometry and member of the Alabama Bar, UAB School of Optometry speaking on “30 Years of Excellence: The UAB School of Optometry.” A reception and opening for the School of Optometry thirtieth Anniversary Exhibit follows the lecture.

November 8, 2000: Todd Savitt, Ph.D. Medical Humanities Department of East Carolina University School of Medicine speaking on “Race, Medicine, and the Discovery of Sickle Cell Anemia in 1910-1911.” The first two case histories of sickle cell anemia ap-
appeared in the medical literature within three months of each other in 1910 and 1911. Who were the physicians and patients involved? Their stories reflect the racial and medical situations of early twentieth-century America.

January 24, 2001: John Swann, Ph.D. FDA Historian, United States Food and Drug Administration speaking on “From Manufacturer to Medicine Cabinet: A History of Drug Regulation in the United States.” Efforts to protect the public from the dangers associated with pharmaceutical therapeutics have evolved both as a testament to their sociopolitical roots and as a reaction to specific disasters. The slide lecture will relate the circumstances that produced the major shifts in how the U.S. regulated drugs from the mid-nineteenth century to the present.

All lectures are held at noon in the Ireland Room of the Lister Hill Library and are open to the public.

GIFTS OF NOTE

Jonathon Erlen announces the following gift of books from a local physician to the Falk Library of the Health Sciences Historical Collection, University of Pittsburgh.

* Principles and Practice of Surgery by George M’Clellan. Philadelphia: Grigg, Elliot, 1848.


GOOD NEWS

The Baker-Cederberg Museum and Archives Web site has been installed on the viaHealth home page: <http://www.viahealth.org/archives>. The site includes pages on the History of Rochester City/General Hospital, biographies, timeline, the Baker-Cederberg Museum and Archives and a listing of its collections, the Heritage Society and a selected bibliography, books, and items for purchase. The biography page will have additional life stories of prominent Rochester City/General Hospital personages in the coming months and a chronology provides links to sites of similar interest. The site is profusely illustrated with historic photographs from the Baker-Cederberg collections.

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Toby A. Appel, Historical Librarian at the Cushing/Whitney Medical Library at Yale University, announces the completion of the retrospective conversion of the extensive holdings of the Historical Library. The records can be found on OCLC and RLIN as well as on the Yale University Library’s online catalog, ORBIS. The address is <http://www.library.yale.edu/orbis/>. ORBIS on the Web is easiest to use for those outside Yale.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

The Bakken Library and Museum in Minneapolis offers visiting research fellowships for the purpose of facilitating scholarly research in its collection of books, journals, manuscripts, prints, and instruments. The focus of the Bakken’s collection is on the history of electricity and magnetism and their applications in the life sciences and medicine. Related materials include mesmerism and animal magnetism, nineteenth-century ephemera concerning alternative electromedical therapies, letters of various scientists, and trade catalogs. The instruments include electrostatic generators, magneto-electric generators, induction coils, physiological instruments, recording devices, and accessories.

The fellowship is a maximum of $1,300 and is to be used to help defray the expenses of travel, subsistence, and other direct costs of conducting research at The Bakken. The minimum period of residence is one
week. The deadline for next year is February 1, 2001. For further details, contact David J. Rhees, Executive Director, The Bakken Library and Museum (612) 926-3878, ext 213 or mailto:rhees@thebakken.org.

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The Reynolds Associates, in conjunction with the Historical Collections Unit of Lister Hill Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham, are pleased to announce the availability of short-term grants of up to $1,000 to those engaged in research projects for the 2001 calendar year relating to one or more aspects of the history of the health sciences. Applicants should submit an outline of the proposed project along with an abstract (not to exceed 250 words) stating its general scope and purpose. All proposals must be accompanied by a budget listing travel and other attendant expenses, length of anticipated visit, brief curriculum vitae, and two letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the nature of the applicant’s research and scholarly interests. All materials must be submitted by December 31, 2000, and awards will be announced by February 28, 2001. Successful applicants will be expected to deposit a copy of the finished manuscript, thesis, dissertation, or published work with the Historical Collections Unit.

The Historical Collections of Lister Hill Library include the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, the University Archives, and the Reynolds Historical Library. The Museum holds equipment, instruments, and objects that represent the history and development of the health sciences. Among its featured holdings are the Nott pathological specimens, nineteen wax anatomical models purchased by Dr. Josiah Nott (1804-1873) and originally brought to Mobile, Alabama, in October of 1860. The scope of the collection includes but is not limited to the fields of medicine, nursing, ophthalmology, dentistry, public health, and allied health.

The Archives contain more than 1,500 linear feet of processed materials relating to the medical school of the University of Alabama, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the Alabama health science community, and other primary resource materials that include personal papers and an extensive collection of photographs.

The Reynolds Library contains historical materials relating to medicine and its allied sciences. The core of the Library includes the 5,000 titles collected by Dr. Lawrence Reynolds (1889-1961) and officially transferred to UAB in 1958. Included in his original library are some thirty incunabula dating from the fourteenth century and other medical classics. In addition, the Reynolds Library contains an extensive and growing collection in Civil War Medicine, significant holdings relating to the famous Ohio Valley physician Daniel Drake (1785-1852), complete transactions for the Southern Surgical Association dating from 1888. For further information on the collections, visit the Historical Collections Web site at <http://www.uab.edu/historical/>. Applications for the research grants should be sent to Katie Oomens, LHL301, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 1530 Third Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35294-0013.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Estes Award**

This award has been established in honor of J. Worth Estes in recognition of his many years of invaluable contributions to the AAHM and to scholarship in the history of medicine. The Award will be made annually for the best published paper in the history of pharmacology during the previous two years, whether appearing in a journal or a book collection of papers.
The choice of topic reflects Worth Estes’ long tenure as Professor of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics at Boston University and his own scholarship in the history of pharmacology.

For the purpose of this award, the history of pharmacology will be broadly defined to include ancient and traditional materia medica, folk medicines, herbal medicines, the pharmaceuticals and medications of the modern era, pharmaceutics, and the like. It shall encompass the discovery of medicaments, basic investigations regarding them, their characteristics and properties, their preparation, and their therapeutic applications.

While the Committee will be monitoring relevant journals and books where such papers might appear, they welcome nominations of papers that would be eligible for consideration. The nomination should consist of a letter citing the work nominated, along with a copy of the paper. For the current award, candidate papers will be those published in 1999 and 2000. Nominations should be directed to the Chair of the Committee: Dr. John Parascandola, Public Health Service Historian, 18-23 Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Nominations must be received by the committee Chair by January 16, 2001.

The award will be presented at the annual meeting of the AAHM in the form of a written acknowledgment. As a result of a generous contribution in honor of Worth Estes from one of our members, the award will be accompanied by a check for $500.

Eighth National Conference of the Society of Civil War Surgeons, Inc.

The Eighth National Conference of the Society of Civil War Surgeons, Inc., will be held from Friday, March 16 through Sunday, March 18, 2001, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, at the Radison Read House Hotel. Tentatively scheduled to speak are the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army, Jacque Stroud. The Friday pre-conference workshop, to be conducted by Dr. Bruce Evans, will take participants on a tour through the U.S. Army Pannier. On Sunday morning, there will be a tour of the Chattanooga Civil War sites, with emphasis on those relating to the medical aspects of this area.

The deadline for submitting abstracts and biographical data was September 30, 2000. For further information and registration form, please contact: Peter J. D’Onofrio, Ph.D., President: Society of Civil War Surgeons, Inc., 539 Bristol Drive, S.W., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068, or visit the Web site at <www.civilwarsurgeons.org>.

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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 December, 1 March, 1 June and 1 September.

Submissions may be sent to: Lilli Sentz, 18 Rockland Park, Branford, CT 06405; (203) 483-8408; FAX (203) 483-5037; 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.