



**The Antiquarian Medical Book Trade:  
A Survey and Directory of Dealers and a  
List of Internet Resources**

by Michael North

Over the past 15 years, three surveys of rare medical book dealers have appeared in the pages of *The Watermark*, all accompanied by directories of these dealers. The last was compiled by Elizabeth Borst White of the Houston Academy of Medicine in Winter, 1994 (Vol. XVIII, no. 1), just before the Internet began to make such a large impact on the rare book market.

The expectation is that this article and the accompanying directory will assist curators of history of medicine collections, private collectors, and other rare book dealers in adding to their collections, having books appraised, and generally getting to know who is selling rare medical material today. An added feature of this article not appearing in others in the series is a list of Internet book search engines.

**A Survey of Dealers**

I sent questionnaires to 70 antiquarian book dealers whose stock contained significant amounts of medical titles asking them for contact information and whether they issue catalogs or perform appraisals. I also asked if they had any insights into the rare medical book market, including Internet vs. catalog sales, who is buying and who is not, and what is popular.

I found the names of dealers by going through the membership directories of the Antiquarian Bookseller's Association (ABA), Antiquarian Bookseller's Association of America (ABAA), the Antiquarian Bookseller's Association of Canada (ABAC), the International League of Antiquarian Bookdealers (ILAB), and ALHHS. I also asked colleagues who

regularly purchase rare medical books for other dealers who do not appear in these sources.

By reading through responses and talking to several dealers on the phone, I gathered a fair amount of information about the state of the rare medical book market and how, in the opinion of many, it has changed over the past seven years.

In 1995, only a few book dealers listed an e-mail address, and websites were virtually unheard of. Today, nearly all rare medical book dealers have at least an e-mail address, if not their own website where their inventory can be searched. Many allow their inventories to be searched by larger search engines, such as those of ABE or ILAB.

Many dealers have chosen to perform virtually all of their business over the Internet, finding it to be much cheaper than issuing printed catalogs and keeping a shop open. From what I can tell, these are often dealers who sell low- to mid-priced items and are most interested in higher volumes of sales and reaching the widest possible market.

Some in the rare book collecting and selling fields, particularly in the low- and mid-ranges, commented upon the changing relationship between collector and dealer because of the Internet. Because so many dealers have stopped issuing regular catalogs and having open shops and buyers have increasingly found mid- and low-priced items on the Internet through impersonal web searches, bonds which used to exist between dealer and buyer are in many cases not developing. Buyers often show little loyalty to dealers they meet through the Internet and don't get the same feel for a dealer's strengths and interests they did when regular

catalogs were mailed out. It was often through such bonds that collectors gained their education about rare book connoisseurship. This would happen as collectors spent time in a local antiquarian bookshop or several hours a month reading a dealer's catalog descriptions of hundreds of books available in a field.

Dealers in higher end antiquarian books have not necessarily seen such dramatic changes. These dealers often still issue catalogs regularly, many of them never having decreased the number of catalogs issued on a yearly basis. According to several of these dealers, most buyers who are about to spend many thousands of dollars on a book are interested in knowing more about the book's condition and history and more about the dealer. One dealer in particular said that while his stock is advertised on the Internet, he has never sold a book solely by e-mail and faxes—he has always spoken to his customers on the telephone at least once during the transaction.

As far as pricing is concerned, some shifting has taken place because of the Internet. Many books, which were thought to be extremely scarce, existing in only one or two copies, were found to have several copies on the market when hundreds of book dealers' inventories became instantly searchable. Such books went down in asking price. But still other books, once thought to have been common, were suddenly found to be rare, bringing up their prices. Book dealers,

especially in the low- and mid-ranges, are now often able to see what other dealers are asking for the same item very quickly and easily and often adjust their prices accordingly, sometimes causing "reverse bidding wars."

Many long-time, professional dealers commented that the Internet has brought into the marketplace a great number of "amateur" dealers. Such part-time dealers generally do not have to follow the ethical standards of the professional booksellers' organizations; they merely set up an account with BookAvenue.com or offer something on eBay. They can often sell their books very cheaply because they do not live off the proceeds of their bookselling, bringing some prices down. Some expert dealers who describe their stock in great detail online have complained that less experienced dealers have been "lifting" their descriptions and attaching them to their own online entries. This could probably happen in the printed catalog world as well, but many seasoned book dealers have commented on such practices as if they were new or, at the very least, far more rampant.

I asked a number of dealers if they felt that prices had changed because of the slowing economy, especially the slumping stock markets. Nearly all dealers agreed that most prices have not gone down over the past few years. If prices had stopped rising, they remained unchanged. The high points in medical

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collecting, such as works by Vesalius and William Harvey, are still going up in value, sometimes astronomically. This is perceived to be in part because collectors with large sums of money at their disposal are often focusing only on the most well known classics in medicine and science without going in depth into specialized areas.

There were a number of other interesting comments in the area of who is buying what. Many noted that there are fewer physicians collecting rare medical books. A number of factors have been suggested for this, including lower physician incomes and less leisure time.

Most of the comments on this trend seem to be highly speculative, however. While physician incomes have gone down a bit in some specialties, the expense of collecting rare medical books as opposed to other collectibles such as antique cars or art, has actually remained rather affordable, with the exception of the highest priced items. One dealer commented that even during Harvey Cushing's time there was lament that not enough physicians were interested in the humanities. All of these ideas seem worthy of further pursuit by those watching the rare medical book trade. I myself have wondered if the trend is due to a decreasing interest in the printed page as opposed to electronic media over the past ten years.

Many dealers commented upon trends in institutional buying. While individual collectors are often focusing their collecting efforts on narrow fields of medicine, institutions with history of medicine collections are often looking to broaden their collecting interests. Books in areas such as cookery, chemistry, cosmetics, wine, anthropology, and voyages are recognized as having perspectives on health and medicine that many private collectors overlook. Scholars at such institutions are urging curators to delve into these tangential areas deeper and deeper. Many have noted that most institutions do not seem to be spending as much as they were in the 1960s and 1970s, as they have been forced to shift spending into electronic resources.

Because there is less buying by physicians and by institutions in the area of medicine proper, some dealers say that there has been a decrease in dealers who specialize only in medicine. Some point out that

literature on modern technologies, such as computers and imaging, are gaining collectors. In general, interests in the rare book market appear to be moving towards literature, especially areas such as modern first editions.

### **A Directory of Online Search Engines for Antiquarian Books**

The Internet has made searching for a specific rare or out-of-print book extremely quick and easy over the past seven years. The number of search engines has grown, and many of the most well known have been bought out by competitors and shut down. Many rare book dealers have chosen to list their stock in these databases rather than create their own websites with search engines, and some have stopped printing catalogs all together.

These search engines are often money-making ventures for their owners, charging a commission from book dealers for each sale. This often causes the price of the book to be automatically increased by the system without the customer being aware of it, and sometimes finding the same book from the same dealer via a different search engine can result in a slightly different price. Another result of this phenomenon is that some sites allow users to contact dealers directly in order to ask questions about a book's condition, whereas others do not even give the name of the dealer, or insist that you send messages through their system. Some users believe this causes delays and confusion and can be a bit alienating.

As with the directory of dealers below, it is not my intention to recommend one search engine over another, although some attempt to describe the holdings or special features of each has been made. Many of the sites have a significant overlap of book dealers' inventories, as many dealers have added their holdings to numerous databases. This list is only a portion of Internet book search engines; new ones are appearing every month and not every site could be mentioned here.

**Advanced Book Exchange (ABE):** <http://www.abebook.com>. Said by many to have the largest group of multinational independent booksellers on the web. Includes a special section for maps and prints.

**Alibris:** <http://www.alibris.com>. Alibris has become one of the best known search engines; some have claimed that the higher overhead due to mainstream advertising has led to higher commissions charged to dealers.

**Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America (ABAA):** <http://abaa.org>. Contains the stock of many of ABAA's members.

**Antiqbook (NAN):** <http://www.antiqbook.com>. Based in the Netherlands, with many of the same dealers as ABE, but includes some European dealers found in few other places.

**Bibliology:** <http://www.bibliology.com>. "The on-line bookfair," includes information on bibliophilic events as well as a search engine.

**Biblion:** <http://www.biblion.com>. "The U.K.'s largest site for rare, antiquarian and out of print books," although it contains the inventories of numerous international dealers as well.

**Bibliophile.net:** <http://www.bibliophile.net>. Based in Switzerland, this site is small but growing quickly; includes searching capabilities in five languages.

**Bibliopoly:** <http://www.bibliopoly.com>. Boasts a search engine in five languages.

**Bookavenue.com:** <http://www.bookavenue.com>. Less international than ABE or Antiqbook; includes numerous small dealers found nowhere else

**Bookfinder.com:** <http://www.bookfinder.com>. An umbrella search engine that simultaneously searches a number of the other search engines on this list.

**Galaxidion:** <http://www.galaxidion.com>. Based in France, representing mainly with Francophone dealers in Europe.

**International League of Antiquarian Booksellers (ILAB):** <http://www.ilab-lila.com>. This international organization, which sets ethical standards for rare book dealers around the world, also includes a search engine of many of its members' holdings.

**Mare Magnum Librorum:** <http://www.maremagnum.com>. Based in Milan, the site has searching capabilities in five languages.

**TomFolio.com:** <http://www.tomfolio.com>. A growing search engine, named after the bibliophile and bibliomaniac Thomas Rawlinson (1681-1725).

**Used Book Central:**

<http://www.usedbookcentral.com>. Small but growing quickly, mainly American bookdealers. Claims that there are no commissions charged.

**WorldBookDealers.com:**

<http://www.worldbookdealers.com>. Small but growing quickly, mainly American and British dealers.

**A Directory of Antiquarian Medical Book Dealers in the U.S., Canada, and the U.K.**

The directory of antiquarian medical book dealers below is intended as a reference tool for archivists, librarians, collectors, scholars, and other rare book dealers. Each entry contains the most complete and up-to-date contact information available for each dealer who responded to the survey. It includes the name of the proprietor or medical book specialist (labeled "P."), the dealers' specialties, and whether they produce catalogs and/or perform appraisals.

It is not the intention of the author, *The Watermark*, or the ALHHS to endorse any of these dealers in particular. Nearly all of these dealers are members of the following booksellers' associations, which require their members to uphold certain ethical standards, viewable at the associations' websites: The Antiquarian Booksellers' Association (ABA, <http://www.aba.org.uk>), The Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America (ABAA, <http://abaa.org>), The International League of Antiquarian Booksellers (ILAB, <http://www.ilab-lila.com>), and The Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of Canada (ABAC, <http://www.abac.org>). A dealer's membership in each group is listed at the end of each entry.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you all had a productive fall and fall semester. It is hard to believe that another year is almost over. For me, the fall was a particularly busy time. Here at Virginia Commonwealth University we held a formal opening for our renovated Tompkins-McCaw Library on November 6th. I had spent the better part of the last year working with contractors, inspectors, architects and designers so that our library might have a fresh look, at least on the main level! For those interested in following the trials and tribulations of the project, be sure to visit our renovations photo gallery at <http://www.library.vcu.edu/tml/renovations/photogallery.html>.

To keep my archival skills sharp during this period when I was reading blue prints and troubleshooting the renovations project, I journeyed up the road every Tuesday evening to teach a class on archives to students enrolled in the Historic Preservation Program at Mary Washington College (home department of the other JK's husband, Mike Klein). The class I taught is designed to examine the role of archives in society and to introduce students to some of the basic principles for managing archival materials. I am sure that none of the students who signed up to take this course

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realized that they would also receive an introduction to the history of medicine while learning about archives. Teaching a course such as this requires numerous examples. Naturally I looked to the collections at the Tompkins-McCaw Library for classroom examples and case studies. In addition, I introduced my students to the collections at the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library at the University of Virginia, the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, the Archives & Special Collections on Women in Medicine and Homeopathy and the National Library of Medicine. The work that each of these institutions has undertaken to make their resources accessible is truly amazing and greatly appreciated by those of us who like to teach through illustrations. One student in the class became so interested that she decided to focus one of her class assignments on history of medicine resources. This may not be a classic example of archival outreach but it has been an effective one for me. I always welcome an opportunity to introduce the history of medicine to a new audience.

Best wishes to you all for 2003.

Jodi Koste

## ALHHS ANNUAL MEETING

2003 will see the return of ALHHS to Boston for the organization's annual meeting on May 1. Held, as usual, in conjunction with the meetings of the Medical Museums Association and American Association for the History of Medicine, the ALHHS meeting should be both entertaining and provocative, giving members an opportunity to connect with colleagues, keep up to date on changes in law with relevance to medical archives, and sample the rich medical history and the mythical springtime of Boston. It has been over twenty years since ALHHS convened in the Bay State, and this year's meeting should be an exciting fusion of the past and future.

As part of our tradition, ALHHS and MEMA members will meet on the evening of Wednesday, April 30, for dinner—in 2003, we'll be assembling at the Harvard Faculty Club in Cambridge. On May 1, ALHHS members will gather at the Countway Library of Medicine on the campus of Harvard Medical School. The morning will open with a brief awards ceremony and then move immediately into our program devoted to a discussion of issues and consequences surrounding access to patient information to comply with the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) regulations. Following the program, the business meeting of ALHHS will be held in conjunction with a box lunch.

The afternoon of May 1 will be devoted to a choice of tours—options will include libraries and sites of medical interest, including the Ether Dome and Archives at Massachusetts General Hospital, the new Mary Baker Eddy Library for the Betterment of Humanity and the Mapparium on the Christian Science Plaza in Boston, and, of course, the Countway Library of Medicine and Warren Museum at Harvard. An additional special tour of gravesites and monuments of medical interest in the Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge has also been scheduled.

The conference hotel for the AAHM meeting will be the Westin Copley Place, at 10 Huntingdon Avenue, in downtown Boston; you can obtain information on reservations from the hotel at 617-262-9600 or search on the Starwood Westin website at:

[www.starwood.com/westin](http://www.starwood.com/westin). Registration materials for the ALHHS meeting will be distributed to members in late January. For additional information on the program, tours, or questions about the meeting in general, contact Jack Eckert at the Countway Library (617-432-6207).

Jack Eckert  
Chair, ALHHS Local Arrangements

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

The request for ALHHS membership dues for the calendar year 2003 was mailed in November. Please make your check for \$15 payable to ALHHS and send it by January 15, 2003 to: Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, ALHHS Secretary/treasurer, c/o Health Sciences Library, UW-Madison, 1305 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706-1593.

Membership is open to librarians and archivists with responsibilities for collections and services in the history of the health sciences; antiquarian booksellers; physicians; historians and others interested in historical health sciences collections. Members receive a subscription to *The Watermark*, the association's quarterly newsletter, an occasional membership directory, and access to ALHHS-L, the private listserv for our members.

If you have any questions about membership, please contact Micaela at (608) 262-2402.

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## ALHHS BYLAWS CHANGES

At the ALHHS business meeting to be held this spring in Boston, members will be asked to vote on a number of bylaws changes. The changes will create standing committees for awards and publications and these new standing committees will handle responsibilities previously handled by a variety of ALHHS committees. It is hoped that these changes will streamline our operations and facilitate the work of our organization. Thanks to Patricia Gallagher for compiling these by-law changes.

The ALHHS Constitution and Bylaws can be found in the ALHHS Directory (2001) and online at <http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/biomed/alhhs/bylaws.htm>.

### Proposed Changes

Amend Article IV, Section 1 Standing Committees as follows: (underscored text is the proposed language text to be added to existing section of the bylaws)

- A. Standing Committees of the Association shall be the Steering Committee, Program Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Awards and Recognitions Committee, and the Publications Committee. The President shall serve as ex officio chair of the Steering Committee and shall appoint a chair for each additional Standing Committee.
- E. The Publications Committee will be responsible for publication of *The Watermark*, maintenance of the ALHHS web site, publication of the Membership Directory, and any other necessary publication projects, physical or virtual.

Add new section F:

- F. The Awards and Recognitions Committee will be responsible for determining the recipients of all grants and honors bestowed by the organization.

Renumber current section F to G:

- G. The President shall appoint an auditing committee three months prior to the Annual Meeting. The Committee shall review the Treasurer's account

books and report to the Association at the Annual Meeting.

## NOMINATIONS

### Lisabeth M. Holloway Award

This distinguished service award for members of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences was named in honor of Elisabeth M. Holloway who was a founder and who served as president Pro Tem in 1975, and was for many years the editor of *The Watermark*. The award recognizes significant contributions through leadership and service to ALHHS and the profession.

Previous recipients of the award are:

Estelle Brodman (1993)

Nancy Whitten Zinn (1997)

Judith (Robin) Overmier (2000)

### Nominations Procedure

Nominations should be submitted as a one- to two-page letter describing the nominee's outstanding professional achievements and the impact of his/her contributions on ALHHS and the profession. A current curriculum vitae as well as letter(s) of support (a limit of 2) are not required but provide helpful additional



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information to the Awards Committee. The Committee may also seek additional information on a nominee from the nominator or other sources as needed.

#### Criteria for evaluation:

##### Membership in ALHHS

ALHHS office(s) held

ALHHS committee(s) chaired or served on Outstanding service to one's institution

Contributions to the profession, i.e., history of health science librarianship/archival administration.

A nominee cannot be a member of the Committee nor can a Committee member nominate. If no worthy nominations are received, no award will be given.

Nominations for The Lisabeth M. Holloway Award are due by March 1, 2003. The winner will be announced at the annual meeting of ALHHS in Boston on May 1, 2003, and presented with an engraved crystal paperweight. The winner is not required to be present.

Submit nominations and any accompanying materials to:

Paul Theerman  
Chair, ALHHS Awards Committee  
History of Medicine Division  
National Library of Medicine  
Room 1-E21  
8600 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20894

For further information, please call (301) 594-0975 or send an e-mail to [paul\\_theerman@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:paul_theerman@nlm.nih.gov).

#### ALHHS Recognition of Merit

The ALHHS Recognition of Merit is designed to honor and recognize individuals for their donations or service to health science libraries. It is awarded irregularly; and no more than one award per year may be made.

This award is new to ALHHS and has not been awarded previously.

There are two categories of recognition:

- The first category of recognition: individuals, either members or non-members, who make gifts of an extraordinary nature to health sciences libraries. Gifts of magnitude would include, but not be limited, to the following:
- **Materials** such as rare/historical books, journals, or items in other formats, of significant value, book collections by author or subject, or furniture, computers or other kinds of equipment.
- **Artwork** such as portraits, posters, paintings, photographs, sculpture, instruments, medical objects.
- **Monetary** gifts sufficient to establish memorials or endowments or significant donations.
- The second category of recognition: non-members of ALHHS who have provided long-time excel-

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lent service to health sciences libraries. Examples include:

- A **supporter** of a library over a long period of time
- A person who has made an **intellectual contribution** to a library by surveying or indexing a collection
- A person who has given extraordinary support to a library by serving as an **advocate** to the administration of the institution

### Nominations Procedure

Nominations should be submitted as a one- to two-page letter describing the nominee's outstanding scope of donations, for the first category; and his/her achievements and the impact of his/her contributions on health sciences libraries, for the second category. Letter(s) of support (a limit of 2) are not required but provide helpful additional information to the Awards Committee. The Committee may also seek additional information on a nominee from the nominator or other sources as needed.

A nominee under the first category, if a member of ALHHS, cannot be a member of the Awards Committee. A Committee member cannot also make a nomination. If no worthy nominations are received, no award will be given.

Nominations for The ALHHS Recognition of Merit Award are due by March 1, 2003. The winner will be

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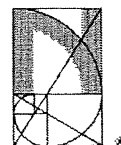
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### A Mysterious Web Tale

By Lucretia W. McClure

While searching the MEDLINE database through OVID this summer, I came upon an article that had appeared in *The Watermark*. This citation, however, said the item was published in another journal, *The Scalpel and Tongs*, a journal of medical philately. Further exploration revealed that many articles, not only from *The Watermark*, but from a variety of journals, were cited as being in *The Scalpel and Tongs*.

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Puzzled by this, I wrote to the editor, expressing surprise that so many items from other sources were being cited in his journal. The editor kindly replied that the articles were not, in fact, in *The Scalpel and Tongs*.

I then asked the MEDLINE folk at the National Library of Medicine if they were aware of this strange occurrence. They were not. And to further complicate the situation, the citations in PubMed were correct, leading us to believe that something had occurred when the items were loaded into OVID.

The problem is being pursued by NLM and will be corrected. In the meantime, if you are searching a topic in the history of medicine and come across items that do not seem to have any relation to philately but are cited in *The Scalpel and Tongs*, check the volume numbers and dates of the journals. You will soon see they do not correlate with the volumes and dates of *The Scalpel and Tongs*.

We offer our apologies to the editor for an error he did not create. And we will let you know when the citations are right once again.

**EX LIBRIS**

by Lucretia W. McClure

**Gifts Galore**

The Archives and Rare Books Department of the Bernard Becker Medical Library celebrated the outstanding book collection presented by H. Richard Tyler, M.D., on October 24. The gift of some 7,000 volumes

includes works in neurology and the neurosciences that span five centuries. More than a thousand volumes are rare with authors such as Jean Martin Charcot, Santiago Ramon y Cajal, Harvey Cushing, George Combe, and Andreas Vesalius (Fabrica, 1543).

\* \* \*

The Robert L. Sadoff Library of Forensic Psychiatry and Legal Medicine has been presented to the Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Dr. Sadoff, a Fellow of the College since 1979 and a noted forensic psychiatrist with an appointment at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, has given some 3,500 books he has collected during the past forty years. The Sadoff Library is rich, not only in his specialty, but also in the related fields of criminology, penology, and medicine in its relationship to law.

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Along with the books, Dr. Sadoff has donated funds needed to hire two temporary staff members to catalog the collection. The Library has hired Angela Konin, a recent college graduate who is considering librarianship as a career, and Leigh Keller, a student in the Drexel University Library School, to catalog the collection.

### On Exhibit

An exhibition, *Conception to Birth*, is now on display at the National Museum of Health and Medicine of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. It is based on a book by Alexander Tsiara that traces the growth and development of human life and described by the editor as "an extraordinary marriage of breathtaking visual art and cutting-edge medical science." It was featured on a recent cover of *Time Magazine* and may be viewed at <http://nmhm.washingtondc.museum/exhibits/conception/index.html>.

By using a new medical imaging technology, Tsiaras captured images of the developing baby from never before seen angles. More than 80 of these images, an interactive display, and a ten-minute video that chronicles human development from conception to birth, will be on display at the museum through August 29, 2003. A resource center will allow museum visitors a chance to review the book as well as other books about development.

Many of the images in the exhibit and book are from the museum's Carnegie Human Embryology Collection, which primarily focuses on normal development in the first eight weeks of pregnancy. The collection was started by Franklin Paine Mall, an embryologist who co-founded the *American Journal of Anatomy*, which was published from his laboratory for eight years. For further information please see <http://nmhm.washingtondc.museum/collections/hdac/anatomy.htm>.

\* \* \*

An exhibit, *The Language of the Age: Depictions of Medicine in Graphic Satire*, is on display at the Countway Library of Medicine. The exhibit features the highlights of the collection of satires or caricatures held in the Rare Books and Special Collections Department of the Countway, including such promi-

nent caricaturists as William Hogarth, Thomas Rowlandson, James Gillray, and George Cruikshank. It will run through April of 2003.

In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, graphic social satire enjoyed great popularity, especially in Britain. These satires or caricatures expressed many of the prevailing social and political attitudes of the day. Intellectuals, politicians, the clergy, the military, and of course practitioners of medicine were all subject to the pointed critiques of the satirist. Medical practice was undergoing significant changes during the eighteenth century. Classical humoral pathology and its diagnoses and treatments were beginning to show sharp contrast to emerging scientific theories. Medical therapeutics had little significant effect until the nineteenth century. The era depicted in these prints reflects an important transition in medical history.

The Department houses nearly three hundred of these lively and humorous prints. The collection includes gifts from the Maine Medical Center and Robert Norton Ganz, M.D. and is currently in the process of being cataloged. When the project is complete the collection will appear in Harvard's VIA catalog.

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For further information, contact Peter Rawson, Archival Assistant for Processing and Visual Images, who mounted the exhibit, at (617) 432-2173. For images from the exhibit, please visit the Rare Books Exhibit Web page at <http://www.countway.harvard.edu/rarebooks/reference/exhibitindex.html>.

\* \* \*

Monday October 21 marked the 100th anniversary of the conception of the New York State Nurse Practice Act. Although the act was not voted into law until April 1903, the debates were held in Rochester, New York, on this date. The outcome was the designation of R.N., or Registered Nurse, to be the legal title for all nurses covered by the act.

For further information contact Philip Maples, Curator/Director of the Baker-Cederberg Museum and Archives at Rochester General Hospital, at (585) 922-3521. Please visit the Nurse Practice of 1903 Web site at [www.viahealth.org/archives](http://www.viahealth.org/archives).

\* \* \*

Another online exhibit. *Powerful Grace Lies in Herbs and Plants*, may be viewed on the Becker Medical Library web site: <http://becker.wustl.edu/ARB/index-t.htm>.

### Nightingale Anniversary

Next August marks the 150th anniversary of the beginning of Florence Nightingale's nursing career. On

August 12, 1853, she started her duties as superintendent of the Establishment for Gentlewomen During Illness at 1 Upper Harley Street, London. She left this post in 1854 for the Crimean War. The project director for publishing the *Collected Works of Florence Nightingale*, Lynn McDonald, Ph.D., asks if medical historians and archivists are planning to mark this anniversary by examining and reflecting on her contributions.

Three volumes of the *Collected Works* are now available: *Florence Nightingale's Life and Family*, *Florence Nightingale: Spiritual Journey*, and *Florence Nightingale's Theology*. In production are *Florence Nightingale on Mysticism and Eastern Religions* and *Florence Nightingale on Society and Politics*. In process is *Public Health Care*, where Nightingale's *Notes on Nursing for the Labouring Classes* will appear, along with her work on bringing trained nursing into the workhouse infirmaries, and other writing on health promotion, disease prevention, and even germ theory. In preparing the Nightingale volumes, material has been obtained from some 170 archives and private collections worldwide. It has also become clear that there is a great deal of material still to be located. Dr. McDonald is asking librarians and archivists to let her know of their holdings, especially those not registered in any central registry.

The plan is to make all of Nightingale's writings available. Letters that do not appear in the sixteen print volumes will be included in the electronic text with databases that will be published later. For further information contact Dr. McDonald at the University of Guelph or visit the web site on the project at [www.sociology.uoguelph.ca/fnightingale](http://www.sociology.uoguelph.ca/fnightingale).

### McGovern Center Opens

After nearly two years of planning, the Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library has opened a new facility to serve as the repository for the extensive manuscript collections and institutional archives held by the John P. McGovern Historical Collections and Research Center.

The Center, a department within the HAM-TMC Library, suffered extensive damages to its materials as a result of the Tropical Storm Allison. The need to remove all material from flood level, as well as the an-

ticipation of future acquisitions, led to the decision to open a separate, off-site location known as the Historical Research Center (HRC).

The new facility, with 9,000 sq. ft. of space for its archival collections, solved the storage problem that existed within the library. An additional 2,000 sq.ft. provides for staff offices, client workspaces, and a conference room. The client work area, complete with Internet-accessible computer and photocopy/scanner/fax capabilities, is open to all researchers. The conference room, also computer-equipped, is available by appointment and provides a quiet area for those needing meeting space.

The Center holds archives from more than seventy Houston-area medical institutions, including newsletters and scrapbooks; the manuscript collections of prominent local physicians and researchers involved with the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission; the NASA Space Life Sciences Archive; and other sources on the history of medicine in Texas. Other materials include medical school yearbooks, old nursing caps, an assortment of artificial eyes from the Autrey Collection, a sword contributed by Dr. Ruth Hartgraves, and a tooth belonging to Dr. William Seybold.

For further information please call 713.799.7135 or visit the website <http://mcgovern.library.tmc.edu>.

### Meetings of Interest

The fifth annual meeting of the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science will be held February 21-22, 2003 in the Duke Medical Center and on the campus of University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Sixty-six papers will be presented on three ma-

jor themes: history of medicine in the pre-1800 period; history of medicine in the 19th and 20th centuries; and literature and medicine. The SAHMS program and registration material is available on this website: <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/sahms/>. For further information, contact Jonathon Erlen, program chair, at [erlen@pitt.edu](mailto:erlen@pitt.edu).

### Student Activity

The Archives and Rare Books Staff of the Bernard Becker Medical Library at Washington University taught a record number of registered medical students in the history of medicine course. The staff also prepared a display and lecture featuring the outstanding collection of anatomy atlases held by the Library for first-year medical students.

\* \* \*

The Waring Historical Library supports the Student Medical History Club. Events include a monthly lunch with speakers on history of medicine topics; an elective interdisciplinary course called *Topics in the History of the Health Sciences*; and a Senior History Rotation in which senior medical students prepare a paper on a historical topic under the direction of the Director, Dr. Curtis Worthington.

### Good Listening

The 2002/2003 History of the Health Sciences Lectures of the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library are held in the Wilhelm Moll Rare Book and Medical History Room of the Library. All are open to the public.

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November 6: Deborah Leigh Blum, MA, University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communication, speaking on *The Cloth Monkey: The Life of Harry Harlow*. Co-sponsored with the Center for Biomedical Ethics.

November 20: Andrea Tone, Ph.D., Georgia Institute of Technology School of History, Technology, and Society, speaking on *Bodies of Evidence: Locating the Lost World of American Birth Control*. Co-sponsored with Humanities in Medicine.

February 5: Jeanne Guillemin, Senior Fellow, MIT Security Studies Program and Professor of Sociology at Boston College, speaking on *The 1979 Sverdlovsk Anthrax Outbreak: Researching Bioterrorism*. Co-sponsored with Humanities in Medicine.

February 26: Peyton T. Taylor, Jr., M.D., Richard N. and Louise R. Crockett Professor and Medical Director, University of Virginia Cancer Center, speaking on *From Dunglison to Osler to Harrison: Principles and Practice of Medicine in Three Giant Steps*.

March 26: Duane J. Osheim, Ph.D., Professor, Corcoran Department of History and Associate Dean, University of Virginia, speaking on *Identifying Diseases in the Past: Chroniclers and the Black Death*. The Seventh Annual Kenneth R. Crispell Memorial History Lecture.

\* \* \*

The Francis C. Wood Institute for the History of Medicine sponsored the following seminars during the fall of 2002:

November 5: Paul Kopperman, Ph.D., Professor of History, Oregon State University, speaking on *Venerate the Lancet: Rush's Yellow Fever Therapy in Context*.

November 19: Patricia D'Antonio, Ph.D., RN, Senior Fellow, Center for the History of Nursing and editor, *Nursing History Review*, speaking on *Who Is a Nurse, Redux*.

December 3: Carla Keirns, M.D., Doctoral candidate in the Department of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, speaking on *Moun-*

*tain Retreats, Asthma Germs & Patent Medicine: Episodes in the History of Asthma*.

December 11: Yolande Cohen, Ph.D., Visiting Professor of History, Princeton University, speaking on *Gender History and the History of Nursing*. Co-sponsored with the Center for the Study of the History of Nursing.

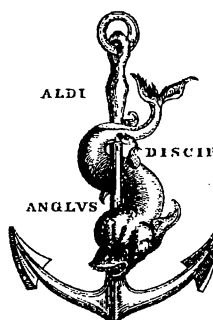
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The Waring Library Society, the friends' group of the Waring Historical Library, sponsors two special lectures each year.

Fall Lecture, November 7, 2002: William A. Gardner, Jr., M.D., Executive Director of the American Registry of Pathology, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, speaking on *Through a Glass Brightly: Our Heritage of Microscopy*.

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Spring Lecture, April 8, 2003: Kenneth M. Ludmerer, M.D., speaking on *The Coming of the Second Revolution in Medical Education*. Held in conjunction with the Society's Annual Meeting.

\* \* \*

The Historical Collections of the University of Alabama at Birmingham announces the following lecture series for 2003. All lectures are held in the Ireland Room of the Lister Hill Library.

February 7: Max D. Cooper, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, Division of Developmental and Clinical Immunology, UAB, speaking on *The Origin of the Immune System*. The 24th Annual Reynolds Historical Lecture.

March 28: William D. Hammonds, M.D., Professor of Anesthesia, the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, speaking on *Doctor's Day and Anesthesia, the Legacy of Dr. Crawford W. Long*. The Doctor's Day Lecture.

April 23: John Crellin, M.D., Ph.D., John Clinch Professor of the History of Medicine, Memorial University of Newfoundland, speaking on *Validating Modern Folk and Prescription Medicines: Two Cultures or Two Sides of the Same Coin?*

\* \* \*

The Historia Medica Lecture Series, begun by the Archives and Rare Books section of the Bernard Becker Medical Library in 2001, continued last year on October 10, 2002, with Shelley McKellar, Ph.D., speaking on *Artificial Hearts: Technology and Organ Replacement in Twentieth Century Medicine*.

## NEWS FROM HMD

By Elizabeth Fee

### Exhibitions

*Dream Anatomy*, our new exhibition, opened on October 9 and will run through July 31, 2003. It is a spectacular show, presenting imaginative, surreal, grotesque, and whimsical images of human anatomy, from the early modern period to the present. The exhibition, curated by Michael Sappol has been receiving wonderful reviews from the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *JAMA*, *Science*, and many other publications. You can check out the online version on our website [www.nlm.nih.gov/dreamanatomy](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/dreamanatomy) and come by and see the physical show whenever you have the chance. Guided tours of the exhibit are offered every weekday at 2:00 pm by our exhibition educator, Jiwon Kim.

In collaboration with the American Library Association, and with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the NLM exhibit, *Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature*, is beginning to travel to more than eighty libraries around the country. Each host library is organizing local programs, lectures, film series or other activities. A very lively and energetic group of representatives from the host libraries attended a workshop in Bethesda to plan these programs, share ideas, talk with the curators, Susan Lederer and Betty Bennett, and learn how to assemble and break-down the traveling version of the exhibition.

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## World Wide Web

A Web exhibit, "*I Swear by Apollo Physician. . .*": *Greek medicine from the God's to Galen*," prepared by Michael North with design assistance from Troy Hill, is now live on the Web.

New finding aids to the manuscript collections available on the Web include Group Health Association (MS C 515) and Medical Library Association; there are also subject guides to the tropical medicine collections and to the midwifery, nursing and obstetrics collections.

The website for the Donald S. Fredrickson papers is now available on "Profiles in Science." Fredrickson was the late Director of the National Institutes of Health.

## Acquisitions

*Archives and Modern Manuscripts*: Notable recent acquisitions include the John Eisenberg papers and the Wilbur Sawyer papers (including films). Eisenberg was the director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and a noted leader in the area of health services research. Sawyer's papers document yellow fever and hookworm eradication projects in Africa and Asia.

*Books*: Anselme Julian, *De l'Art et Jugement des Songes & Visions Nocturnes* (Lyons, 1619) is a rare book that discusses dreams in general and provides accounts of famous biblical, classical, and modern dreams, together with a taxonomy and index.

Johann Valentin Mueller (1756-1813), *Ueber Bleykrankheiten* (Frankfurt am Main, 1796), an early work on lead poisoning, its symptoms, and treatments.

Newly acquired pamphlets advertise Pulvermacher's electric belts, Russian Rose Balm, Dr. Seeley's trusses, and Egyptian Regulator Tea.

## Public Lectures at NLM

July 10: Susan Speaker, "Creating A Monster: Newspapers, Magazines, and the Framing of America's Drug Problem, 1920-1940."

September 3: James Cassedy, "John Shaw Billings: Was he also a Historian?"

October 8: Linda A. Fisher, "Early 19th Century Syphilis Treatment: One Man's Experience."

November 4: David Rosner and Gerald E. Markowitz, "Covering the World with Lead: The History of a Public Health Tragedy."

November 13: Eric C. Colman, "The Medical Historian and the Critic: Early 20th Century Correspondence of Fielding H. Garrison and H.L. Mencken."

December 11: John Parascandola, "Quarantining Prostitutes: VD Rapid Treatment Centers in World War II America."

## Publications

Rutgers University Press published Susan Lederer's *Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature, An Exhibition by the National Library of Medicine*. It is a gorgeous catalogue of the well-received 1997-98 exhibition, along with an original scholarly essay about the themes of the exhibition.

Elizabeth Fee, "History and Development of Public Health." in *Principles of Public Health Practice*, ed. F. Douglas Scutchfield and C. William Keck (New York: Thomson/ Delmar Learning, 2003), 11-30.

Elizabeth Fee, "The Origins and Development of Public Health in the United States," in *Public Health Law and Ethics: A Reader*, ed. Lawrence O. Gostin (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002), 27-35.

Elizabeth Fee, Theodore M. Brown, Jan Lazarus, and Paul Theerman, "The Effects of the Corset," *American Journal of Public Health* 92, July 2002, 1085; "Young Men of 50 and 60 Years Behave Like Kids After Having Read the New Work by M. Flourens," *American Journal of Public Health* 92, August 2002, 1222; "Public Health Service Dentist Examines an Alaska Native Child," *American Journal of Public Health* 92, September 2002, 1420.

Theodore M. Brown and Elizabeth Fee, Isaac Max Rubinow: Advocate for Social Insurance," *American Journal of Public Health* 92, August 2002, 1224-1225.

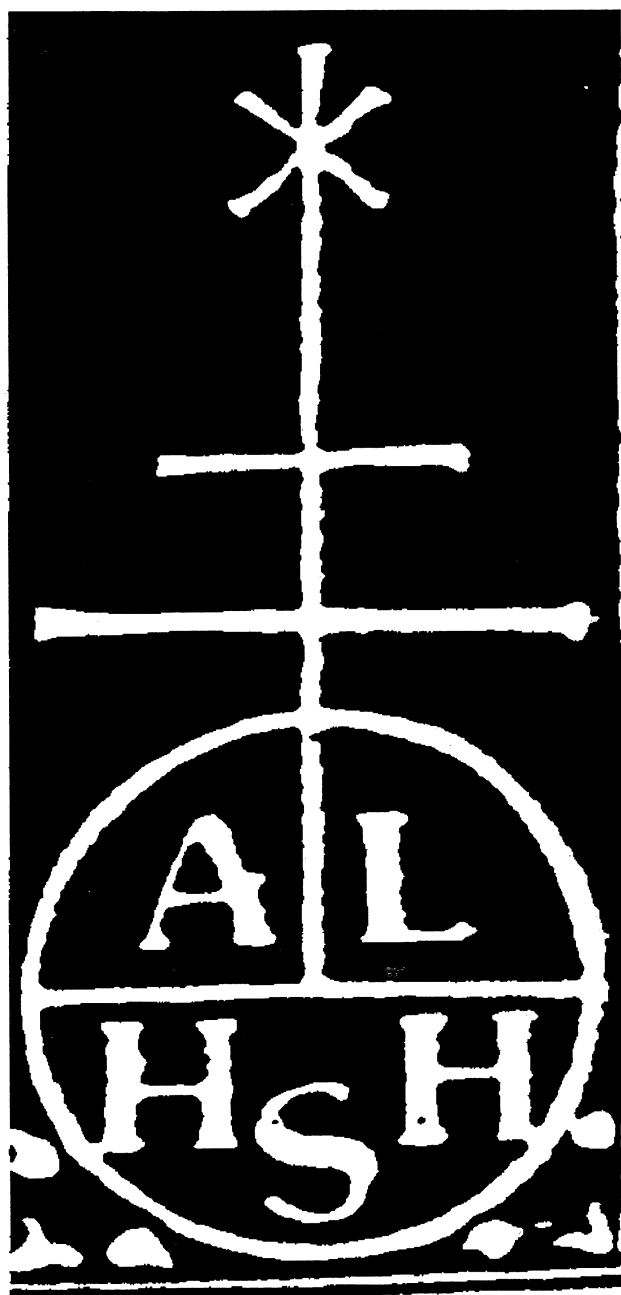
### **Transitions**

Manon Parry, who has provided research services to the upcoming exhibition on the history of American women physicians as a contractor, was promoted to associate curator; Deshaun Williams joined HMD a technician in historical AVs; Sandra Brauksieck began as technician in the Digital Manuscripts Program.

Ba Ba Chang started work as Divisional Secretary for the History of Medicine; Susan Speaker transferred to the Digital Manuscripts Program from the Exhibition Program; Eric Boyle completed his summer internship in DMP as part of NIH's Summer Internship Opportunities Program; Sachie Kobayashi began her work cataloging the Japanese collection.

### **Visitors**

Visitors included the new NIH Director, Elias Zerhouni, the former NLM Director, Dr. Martin Cummings, the Ambassador and Deputy Prime Minister of Ireland, the former Surgeon General, C. Everett Koop, and several thousand slightly lesser luminaries.



*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 Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, Historical Collections, W.S. Middleton Health Sciences Library, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1305 Linden Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1593; (608) 262-2402; FAX (608) 262-4732; E-MAIL [micaela@library.wisc.edu](mailto:micaela@library.wisc.edu)

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

Submissions may be sent to: Lilli Sentz, The Historical Library, Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library, Yale University, 333 Cedar Street, P.O. Box 208014, New Haven, CT 06520-8014; (203) 785-4354; FAX (203) 785-4369; E-MAIL [lsentz@email.msn.com](mailto:lsentz@email.msn.com).

Submissions for Ex Libris should be sent to: Lucretia W. McClure, 164 Elmore Road, Rochester, NY 14618-3651; (525) 244-8703; E-MAIL [lucretiaru@earthlink.net](mailto:lucretiaru@earthlink.net).