

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

Volume XXXIII

Number 2

Spring 2010





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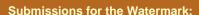
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The Watermark encourages submissions of news and stories about events, collections, catalogues, people, awards, grants, publications, and anything else of professional interest to the members of ALHHS.

Please submit your contributions in a timely way to Chris Lyons, as e-mail attachments. Visuals should be submitted as jpegs with a resolution of 100 dpi if possible. Copyright clearance for content and visuals are the responsibility of the author.



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### **EDITOR'S MESSAGE**



I want to start this issue of *The Watermark* by expressing my appreciation for our outgoing President Lisa Mix, who has been a dedicated, talented, approachable and supportive ALHHS head for the past two years. I am particularly grateful for her encouragement of my desire to transform *The Watermark* when I took over the editorship last year. Since I have been active in ALHHS I have been fortunate in serving under two exceptional presidents, namely Lisa and her

predecessor, Micaela Sullivan-Fowler. I have no doubt that their high standards will be maintained by incoming President Stephen Greenberg.

There are plenty of interesting items in this issue. I am pleased to say that one of our feature articles, on documenting Civil War medicine, is co-authored by our newest member, Nancy Wing, who has also contributed a profile for the New Members' section. Another new member, Megan Curran, has contributed a book review as well as a profile. This enthusiasm bodes well for our future. There are also a number of other interesting pieces and announcements, including an updated program for the Annual Meeting in Rochester later this month and a great example of a reading club by Dawn McInnis that I would love to steal, I mean use, at the Osler Library. Thanks to all of you for supporting *The Watermark* through your submissions and by reading it.

It has been just over a year that we have been working with this new format. I like to think of this as a continual work in progress since I want to ensure that this publication is as relevant and useful as possible to its members. I appreciate any feedback and suggestions you have. Feel free to talk to me at our Annual Meeting either during the Business Meeting or informally. You could also email me at <a href="mailto:christopher.lyons@mcgill.ca">christopher.lyons@mcgill.ca</a>. If you wish to remain anonymous, I am sure that the ALHHS executive would be willing to pass on any comments you have.

### **Chris Lyons**

Assistant History of Medicine Librarian Osler Library of the History of Medicine McGill University

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT



This is it! My last column as ALHHS President. I've truly enjoyed getting to know many of our members through their work on ALHHS business.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at our annual meeting in Rochester. Thanks again to Renee Ziemer for her superb job with local arrangements, to Holly Herro and the Program Committee for putting together an excellent program, and to all those whose efforts make the Annual Meeting happen. This year's meeting truly features something for everyone.

### **Back to Basics**

Recently I had the occasion to read some of the founding documents of ALHHS, and I was moved to reflect upon our association's history. As I read the correspondence between some of our founding members, I was struck by their will and determination. They saw a need for a venue to bring together medical history librarians – a professional need that was not quite filled by other organizations at the time. In an age before the internet, this small but dedicated group of librarians gave of their time, sending letters, making phone calls, organizing meetings, and navigating through some knotty issues and differences of opinion. We are all the beneficiaries of their hard work and perseverance.

ALHHS has grown and changed with the times, but one thing remains the same; the strength of this organization lies in the willingness of its members to get involved. As Lisabeth M. Holloway put it in the first issue of *The Watermark*, "The Association will serve us only if we are willing to serve on its projects."



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### Good-bye and Thank You

As I end my term as President, I am extremely grateful for the many people who give of themselves to "serve on [ALHHS'] projects".

Many thanks to this year's Nominating Committee, Patricia Gallagher and Suzanne Porter, for choosing a great slate of candidates and conducting an orderly election – our first online election – and for drafting the changes to the ALHHS bylaws. Thanks also go to Micaela Sullivan-Fowler for her many hours of work updating the Procedures Manual, bringing it in line with the new bylaws, and reconciling all of our various process documents. The organization will run more smoothly thanks to Pat, Suzanne, and Micaela's efforts.

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the outgoing Officers: Members-at-Large Christopher Lyons and Howard Rootenberg. Chris took on the task of editing *The Watermark*, transitioning it to an online publication. Howard brought a fresh perspective to several ALHHS discussions. It's been wonderful having both of you on the Steering Committee throughout my Presidency.

Arlene Shaner will continue for one more year as Treasurer and Stephen Greenberg will become President at the close of the Annual Meeting. Huge thanks go to Arlene for performing the many thankless tasks that go with being Secretary-Treasurer, including handling some complex problems with ALHHS finances. Thank you to Stephen for always having my back as Vice President. Steve will be a great President and I look forward to seeing where he takes the organization. And Steve, I promise to have your back as Past President.

Thank you to continuing Steering Committee Members-at-Large Jack Eckert and Dawn McInnis, for your many contributions to ALHHS discussions.

Today, we can't imagine conducting ALHHS business without the Internet, and we rely on those who maintain our online presence. Thanks to Russell Johnson for his outstanding work on the website and to Cynthia Kahn for keeping the listserv running even during her transition to a new job in a different part of the country.



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Please join me in welcoming the new ALHHS Officers whose terms begin at the close of the Annual Meeting: Secretary Crystal Smith, and Members-at-Large Jennifer Nieves and Martha Stone.

It has been an honor and a privilege (as well as a real blast!) serving as ALHHS President. I am looking forward to my term as Past President.

Be seeing you!

### Lisa A. Mix

Manager of Archives & Special Collections
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### ALHHS ANNUAL MEETING: ROCHESTER MINNESOTA

## Rochester 2010: The Annual Meeting Program

The Program Chairs and Local Arrangements Committee invite you to attend a joint annual meeting between the Medical Museums Association and the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences at the Mayo Clinic. This year we are excited to announce that Steve Puglia will be joining us as guest speaker to talk about digital production and digital preservation. Steven has worked as a Preservation and Imaging Specialist at the US National Archives and Records Administration for over 22 years. Currently, Steve manages efforts relating to research and development of imaging approaches, data management, development of supporting IT tools, and other technical support in the Digital Imaging Lab of the Special Media Preservation Division within Preservation Programs. Steve has a background in photography, and began his career in preservation as a technical photographer at the Northeast Document Conservation Center duplicating historic negatives. Steve has over 17 years experience working with digital imaging, and lectures regularly on digitization and digital preservation.



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Wednesday, 28 April 2010		
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.	<b>Tours</b> (Select one tour choice) (Meet in the lobby of the Kahler Grand Hotel)	
	Tour #1 Mayo History of Medicine Library & Plummer Library Mayo Historical Suite	
	Tour #2 Mayo Heritage Hall Museum Simulation Center	
3:45 – 5:00 p.m.	Rochester Art Center (Meet in the lobby of the Kahler Grand Hotel) (Another opportunity to see the exhibit is during an AAHM meeting). "Medicine in Art" This exhibit features more than 250 prints and engravings depicting a broad range of medical subjects. The works, spanning five centuries, are from the collection of Bruce and Lois Fye.	
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Steering Committee Meeting Siebens Building, Second Floor, Room 203	
6:00 – 6:30 p.m.	Cash Bar Kahler Grand Hotel, Lobby Level, Elizabethan Room	
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Dinner Kahler Grand Hotel, Lobby Level, Elizabethan Room	

Thursday, 29 April 2010		
8:00 - 8:45 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	
	Siebens Building, First Floor, Phillips Hall	
8:45 – 9:00 a.m.	Welcome & Introductions	
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	Steve Puglia, Preservation and Imaging Specialist, US	
	National Archives and Records Administration	
	Digital production and digital preservation	
10:00 – 10:15 p.m.	Break	



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Thursday, 29 April 2010		
10:15 – 11:30 p.m.	Steve Puglia Digital discussion continues	
11:30 – Noon	<b>Dr. Brent Bauer</b> , Mayo Clinic, General Internal Medicine Historical Collections Used in Medical Research	
Noon – 12:15 p.m.	Break	
12:15 – 1:00 p.m.	Business Meetings – separate organizations	
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Boxed lunch with MeMA attendees	
2:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Matt Dacy, Director, Mayo Clinic Heritage Hall History of Mayo Clinic and Local History	
2:30 – 4:00 p.m.	ALHHS and MeMA speaking on Outreach Through the Use of Technology: Using Social Media to Showcase Digital Collections	
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	Daniel Smith, Special Collections Librarian, Health Sciences Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	
2:45 – 3:00 p.m.	Susan Hoffius, Curator, Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina	
3:00 – 3:15 p.m.	<b>Drew Bourn,</b> Curator, Stanford Medical History Center, Lane Medical Library, Stanford University School of Medicine	
3:15 – 3:30 p.m.	Break	
3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Panel discussion on use of social media to promote digital collections. Panel members include: Steve Puglia, Daniel Smith, Susan Hoffius, Drew Bourn, and Mike Rhode	
4:00 – 4:30	Dale Krageschmidt and Jeff Nesbitt, Mayo Industrial Hygienists, Discussion on How to Exhibit, Store, and Handle "Hidden" Toxic Materials in History of Medicine Collections	



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### **FEATURE ARTICLES**

"He laid upon the ground apparently dead...": Documenting Civil War Medicine

Dr. J. B. Crawford, a former regimental surgeon for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteers, recalled what he observed on May 13, 1864 – the day that Private S. Millard was struck by lightning while on guard duty:

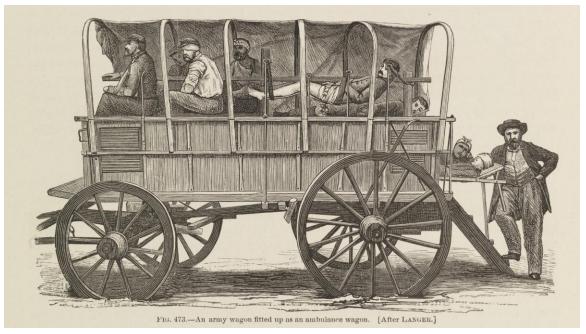
I saw the man about ten minutes after the reception of his injury. He laid upon the ground apparently dead. No pulsation of the heart could be felt, no respiration could be observed, nor could any symptoms be discovered. ... The electric fluid

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seemed to have first touched the point of the bayonet, about one inch of which was melted. The brass buckle of his belt, his steel watch-chain, and the larger portion of the silver casing of the watch were also melted. The hair was burned from his chest and pubes, and the skin of nearly the whole anterior portion of his body was more or less deeply burned. ... The soles of his boots were completely torn off, and no trace of them, with the exception of a few small portions left attached, could be found. ... i

It took over an hour for Dr. Crawford and his assistant, Dr. J. Flowers, to resuscitate Millard. Millard never fully recovered. This is one of many case studies found in *The Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion* [herein cited as *MSHWR*].



Dr. Langer's army wagon was never used in the field due the complexity of its design (MSHWR, Surgical Vol. II, pt. III, p. 956-957).

The foundation for the *MSHWR* was laid in 1862 by William Hammond, the Union Surgeon General, who created the Army Medical Museum, the predecessor to the National Museum of Health and Medicine, and planned to document all medical aspects of the Civil War. The Surgeon General's Office used a variety of sources including hospital registers, Union and Confederate pension records, and contemporary medical textbooks.



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The six-volume *MSHWR* was initially published between 1870 and 1888. In the early 1990s, it was republished in 12 volumes as *The Medical and Surgical History of the Civil War*. The newest edition includes an index that can also be used with the *MSHWR*.

Union medicine is the focus, but there is also information about Confederate medicine. The medical and surgical case studies are an excellent resource for researching wounded or sick soldiers. Some case studies provide information about prisoners of war, nurses, local residents, and African Americans who served with the United States Colored Troops. A smaller percentage of African Americans were contraband, servants, and patients treated in Freedmen's hospitals. African Americans may be listed by first name or described in terms of age, sex and race. In addition to the case studies, the *MSHWR* provides information about ambulances, hospital ships, and hospital trains as well as diseases and surgical procedures. Graphs, tables, maps, plates, lithographs, and sketches are among the numerous visuals.

The National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA) Archives Library Information Center has a complete set of the *MSHWR* as well as the index at the Washington, D.C. location. The National Library of Medicine and the National Museum of Health and Medicine have the *MSHWR* and *The Medical and Surgical History of the Civil War*. Select colleges and universities, especially those with medical schools, and some historical societies are among the research facilities that have copies of this publication. The volumes are also available digitally at <a href="http://www.archive.org/">http://www.archive.org/</a> (search for "Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion").

The MSHWR provides information that often leads to additional records at NARA and to specimens and photographs held by the National Museum of Health and Medicine. The records at NARA relating to Union service may include compiled military service, pension, and carded medical files. NARA has Confederate compiled military service records; however, pensions were issued at the state level. Veterans filed for pensions in their state of residence and not the state from which they served. For additional information about records documenting Civil War military service, see the following publications:

Bethel, Elizabeth, comp. *War Department Collection of Confederate Records*, Preliminary Inventory 101, Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 1957 (Record Group 109).

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Pendell, Lucille H. and Elizabeth Bethel, comp. *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Adjutant General's Office*, Preliminary Inventory 17, Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 1949 (Record Group 94).

Plante, Trevor K., comp. *Military Service Records at the National Archives* (Reference Information Paper 109), Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, revised 2009.

To request copies of the above mentioned free publications, contact:

National Archives and Records Administration

Archives I Research Support Branch (NWCC1)

700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20408-0001

Telephone number: toll free 1-866-272-6272 (select option 5) or (202) 357-5400

The following guides provide information about Union and Confederate medicine:

Beers, Henry P. *The Confederacy: A Guide to the Archives of the Government of the Confederate States of America*. Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 2004.

Munden, Kenneth W. and Henry P. Beers. *The Union: A Guide to Federal Archives Relating to the Civil War.* Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 2004.

To purchase a copy of a guide, visit NARA's eStore <a href="http://estore.archives.gov">http://estore.archives.gov</a> or call 301-837-3163.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Surgeon-General's Office. *The Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1865.* Surgical Vol. II, pt. III, p. 655. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1870–1888.

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# Beach Read Biographies: A Reading Group at the Clendening History of Medicine Library, University of Kansas Medical Center

How do you promote a wonderful gift of women physician biographies? A collection of these were given to the Clendening Library in the spring of 2009 by Dr. Marjorie Sirridge, who is featured in the *Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians* exhibition <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine">http://www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine</a>. Dr. Sirridge was scheduled as our opening speaker when the travelling exhibition opened at the University of Kansas Medical Center on October 3, 2009, and she and our committee wanted these books to get as much use as possible.

The books were cataloged with the intention that no matter what the publication date, they would be circulated throughout University of Kansas Medical Center and through Interlibrary Loan. Because the exhibit was a collaboration among four libraries at three medical schools, I notified the committee members from the other university libraries about the gift. Why not garner interest in the coming exhibit by starting a summer reading group? But how do you reach out to those who love to read and take pleasure in discussing books but would never think of the Clendening History of Medicine Library as a place to find enjoyable reading material?

Many of the books featuring early women in medicine were easy reads; in fact almost "beach reads". That gave me the name for the reading group - Beach Read Biographies. Then I just had to find attendees. I started with the organization whose members I thought might be the most interested in the books, namely KUMC's Women in Medicine and Science program. I made arrangements to attend their meeting to make a quick announcement about the reading group and the coming exhibition. I loaded the books on a small cart and had photocopies of all the title pages or jackets so the patrons could just sign (and print) their names and the date on the photocopy. I later checked them out through our circulation system, knowing that all faculty members were automatically entered into the system. I had due dates and renewal information ready on Clendening bookmarks to insert into the chosen books.



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After that meeting, as I rolled back to the library I stopped at three departments: Human Resources, Alumni Relations, and Compliance. In total I circulated about 20 books that first day, and those patrons, mainly women, formed the nucleus of the group. I later sent an announcement to the staff at Dykes Library on our campus. Now the reading group receives referrals from attendees, and I continue to advertise to students, staff and faculty who are using the library or are just here for a meeting!

The original intent was for patrons to read a biography of their choice and then meet over lunch to share the insights and impressions of their chosen book. It was not to be a formal report or an intimidating experience. It was meant to be enjoyable reading that provided an opportunity for us to share with each other some of the struggles that those first women physicians endured. (In Alberta, Canada, importing British female physicians was considered cost effective because, as women, they were expected to do their own cooking and housekeeping!) The only condition that we all agreed upon was that if we weren't enjoying the book, we were to check it back in and get another one.

Our second meeting had a surprise visitor from India, Dr. Thomas Ram who was at KU on a research fellowship. He saw our Beach Read Biographies announcement online and came to tell us about Dr. Ida Scudder, the U.S. physician who founded his Alma Mater, the Christian Medical College at Vellore, India. He energized everyone with his narrative and prompted several of us to check out her biography. He also informed us about the numerous Western women physician missionaries who established many of the medical schools in India.

After the exhibit closed our reading segued from women physician biographies to biographies of any health professional, or histories of diseases or histories of processes like vaccination. I've suggested a list of reading topics that could be chosen democratically, but I usually end up directing the subject of the next read. I also select books for the cart and create a patron friendly catalog search technique for finding additional reading material.

By the time February rolled around, we decided to take a medical book leave of absence and read our own choices from the American Library Association's 100 Banned and/or Challenged Classics list. Reading books as an adult after reading them as a teenager was definitely an eye opener. By unanimous decision the Banned Books read was scheduled again for the fall of 2010.

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March blew in with a special presentation on Dr. Paul R. Harrington by Dr. Marc Asher, Professor Emeritus Orthopedic Surgery, entitled *Harrington's Contributions in Perspective*. The images Dr. Asher used to accentuate his article added a new dimension to our pre-presentation reading.

Our group has been invited to attend a lecture during the University of Kansas School of Medicine's 2010 Medical Education Day. The theme is "Compassion" and the featured speaker is Clifton Cleaveland, M.D., author and physician in private practice in Tennessee. This selection will be the only time we're all reading the same books: W;it:A Play by Margaret Edson; The Diving Bell and the Butterfly: A Memoir of Life in Death by Jean-Dominique Bauby, translated from the French by Jeremy Leggatt; and A Whole New Life: An Illness and a Healing by Reynolds Price.

Future reads that we're considering are medical mysteries/detection, such as books by Berton Roueché; medically related books that have been made into major motion pictures, for example *The Black Stork*; medical court cases, e.g. *Trial of Dr. Smethurst*, edited by Leonard A. Parry; and case studies or medical curiosities like *A Short Narrative of an Extraordinary Delivery of Rabbets* [sic].

The current announcement process is to send a blind e-mail notification about the next meeting and topic to the "BRBiography" group of 58 people, our History & Philosophy of Medicine faculty and staff, and a few selected patrons, depending on the topic. An online announcement is placed on the KUMC Calendar of Events. The information is also placed in a closed library bulletin board outside the library, usually along with colored photocopies of book jackets for the current read. For the official campus bulletin boards, I create 30 short half page blurbs with a large readable font on bright yellow paper. I also have a small library display on a case and keep a cart of the current topical books in the reference area by the "New Books" shelves. Did I mention that lunch is provided at this discussion? There is an RSVP request on the announcements, and that works well for the most part. I will provide up to 25 lunches, but so far we have had an attendance of between 7 and 18 people, depending on schedules and what we're reading. We've recently pulled in 3 advanced placement biology high school students that are related to attendees, and they've expressed an interest in joining our group for the summer.

Overall, we're having a great time with our small reading group composed of KUMC staff, faculty and students. We now have a core group of about 12 people with others



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who can't come all the time but come when they can. It was wonderful to hear an attendee who is a staff support person state, "If you'd told me I'd be reading a book from the Clendening History of Medicine Library, and that I'd enjoy it, I'd never have believed it!" Scholars are still alive and flourishing at the Clendening, but we're finding new patrons within our own institution who are appreciating our history of medicine library holdings.

### **Dawn McInnis**

Rare Book Librarian Clendening History of Medicine Library University of Kansas Medical Center

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# William Morris at the Wellcome Library: a Cataloguing Project

# FROM THE LIBRARY OF WILLIAM MORRIS KELMSCOTT HOUSE HAMMERSMITH

William Morris's library at Kelmscott House reflected his many interests. His fascination with mediaeval painted manuscripts had begun when he was a student at Oxford and he spent many hours in the

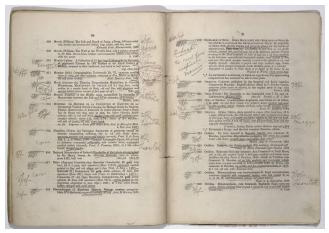
Bodleian Library and later at the British Museum. He was an avid collector and his library contained many fine manuscripts and early printed books. It was a working collection. Herbals were acquired both as source material for designs and for practical information on the uses of plants. His interest in reviving vegetable dyes led him to collect early dyeing manuals. He also acquired a comprehensive collection of works on Scandinavia and Northern Europe, particularly the Icelandic sagas. His interest in book design and production led to the great experiment of the Kelmscott Press and for inspiration he could draw on both bibliographical reference works and examples of illumination and printing from his own library.

After Morris's death in 1896, his library was sold for the benefit of his widow and daughters, after they had made a limited selection. Possible purchasers included Charles Fairfax Murray and Mrs John Rylands but in the end the collection was bought by Richard Bennett, of Pendleton near Manchester. Bennett was a fastidious collector

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who, by and large, limited himself to manuscripts and 15th-century printed books and avoided volumes taller than 13 inches. He selected 31 manuscripts and 239 printed books from the Morris collection and put the rest up for auction at Sotheby's in December 1898. In 1902 he sold his own collection, including his Morris acquisitions, to J. Pierpoint Morgan, so that the Pierpoint Morgan Library in New York now has the largest surviving remnant of Morris's library.



Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, Catalogue of a portion of the valuable collection of manuscripts, early printed books, etc. of the late William Morris, 5-10 December 1898

The Sotheby's sale, from 5th to 10th December 1898, caused sensation. The 1215 lots realised £10,992.11.0. The illuminated manuscripts reached the highest prices and attracted the most press Several went into three attention. figures and a few over £300. The printed book prices were less spectacular, only one reaching £100

and one £151. Bernard Quaritch, the book dealer, was at the head of the field, laying out £3082.19.0 for 85

lots, followed by other leading dealers such as Leighton, Pickering & Chatto, and Tregaskis. Little notice was taken of the fact that over a third of the collection, 464 lots, went to a single bidder giving his name as Hal Wilton. This was Henry Wellcome's preferred alias when buying at auction. Actually he bought 481 lots, since 17 were knocked down to his aide, C.J.S. Thompson. Their total outlay was £1843.9.6, still behind Quaritch but well ahead of Leighton at £1181.12.6 for 88 lots. Sir Henry Wellcome (1853-1936), the founder of the Burroughs Wellcome pharmaceutical company, amassed an immense collection of books and artefacts in medicine and other subjects during his lifetime.

The range of books is interesting: Wellcome bought 11 manuscripts, 67 15<sup>th</sup> century printed books and 125 16<sup>th</sup> century books, but also much of Morris's working library. There were 67 lots of Scandinavian interest, five lots of books on dyeing, books on architecture, textiles, literature, printing and bibliography. This was Wellcome's first major foray into book collecting and his interests were still very broad. Many of the earlier books were clearly bought not for their subject matter but as examples of printing



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and design. It was not until around 1903, when Wellcome had the idea to put on a Historical Medical Exhibition, that his purchases became more focused.

The Morris books were long ago dispersed through the collection and ceased to be a recognisable entity. After Wellcome's death in 1936 the Trustees were overwhelmed by the size and diversity of his museum and library and initiated a dispersal programme to focus the collection more specifically on the history of medicine. A series of 27 sales was held between 1937 and 1939, three of which consisted of library materials, and many of the Morris books must have been weeded out at this stage. The first library sale on 21st to 22nd March 1938 contains a section of fourteen 16th century books specified as from the Morris collection – they raised £47.6.0, in contrast to the 1898 purchase price of £68.9.0. In 1945 a bulk sale to Dawsons included ten of the eleven Morris manuscripts and doubtless more printed books.

Using the library's original copy of the Sotheby's sale catalogue, we have identified 210 printed books, including 67 incunabula, and one 15th century manuscript, still held in our collection. Very few of these are strictly medical, though there are several important herbals. On the whole they are works on history, travel and exploration which were still considered relevant to the library where a focus on ethnography was maintained. There are a few of Morris's books on Scandinavia and most of his 18th century dyeing manuals and also a number of bibliographical works.

The Wellcome Library computer catalogue listed some of the books from the sale catalogue as having belonged to William Morris but not all that remained in the collection. We worked through the sale catalogue, comparing the entries for pre-1500 printed books with a printed catalogue of incunabula, and called up the books from the Library's extensive stacks. Each of the books from the Sotheby's sale has a label to identify it (see beginning of the article) and we were delighted to find that a few also have William Morris's signature. Many of the older books have beautiful woodcut initials and illustrations and it is easy to see where Morris found inspiration for the Kelmscott Press. Descriptions of the binding and illustrations were added to the catalogue entries to give a fuller record of each book.

The books can be seen at the Wellcome Library's Rare Books room and are now all identified in the library catalogue (<a href="http://catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk/">http://catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk/</a>). Enter William Morris as the search term and you will see the holdings of both books by Morris and books previously owned by him.

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### **Julianne Simpson**

Rare Books Librarian Wellcome Library

### **Penny Lyndon**

Honorary Librarian
William Morris Society

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# PROFILE: THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HERITAGE CENTER



**OSU Medical Heritage Center Reading Room** 

Founded in 1997 by a grant from the Columbus Medical Association Foundation and from resources available at The Ohio State University (OSU), the OSU Medical Heritage Center (MHC) stands as a testament to a unique collaboration between the Columbus Medical Association, the region's professional medical society, and the University. The Center owes its formation to two

seemingly unrelated events – the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the

Columbus Medical Association Foundation and the major renovation of OSU's Prior Health Sciences Library.

The Columbus Medical Association celebrated its centennial year in 1992. Prior to the celebration, a history committee was created to plan for the event and discovered that the health sciences historical collections of the central Ohio area were scattered among libraries, archives, private residences, and warehouses. A member of this committee, Barbara Van Brimmer, was the librarian in charge of the small amount of historical materials at the OSU Prior Health Sciences Library. She was aware that the recent

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extensive remodeling of the library provided a window of opportunity to create an institution dedicated to the history

of the health sciences in the region. During renovations funding was available to renovate the first four floors of the library. However, the budget fell short of fully remodeling the fifth floor of the library. Van Brimmer and other committee members seized this funding vacuum to develop a grant to the Columbus Medical Association Foundation, with matching funds from the OSU medical center. The grant proposal was accepted and the MHC opened its doors on May 1, 1997. Today the Center remains the only institution in the region dedicated to collecting, promoting and preserving the rich health sciences history of central Ohio.



Drs. Joel Vilenski and John C. Burnham, scholars-in-residence

At its inception, the Medical Heritage Center began acquiring historic materials that speak both to the area's legacy of innovation in the health sciences as well as the general development of American medicine for local educational purposes. The Center's collections are divided into the three collection areas of archives and personal papers, rare books, and artifacts.

The Center's over 1,045 linear feet of archival material currently includes papers,

photographs, and memorabilia from such regional and nationally-recognized physician luminaries as Arthur G. James, MD, Bertha Bouroncle, MD, William G. Myers, MD, PhD, Charles Doan, MD, and Robert Zollinger, MD, as well as organizations including the John Harris Dental Museum and the Mid-Ohio Nursing Association. The rare book collection contains over 11,000 volumes representing limited edition and one-of-a-kind monographs dating back to 1555. The artifact collection represents medical equipment used as early as the 1800's and is used primarily for educational and exhibit purposes. All MHC collections are housed in a humidity-controlled environment.

In addition to collecting historical collections, the Center is active in the creation of scholarly publications and resources to be used by future researchers. The Center is home to a scholar-in-residence program. Each year the MHC hosts two scholars who are actively pursuing research projects in health sciences history. The Center provides these scholars with funding, research support, and office space for up to one year to

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pursue projects that will use and highlight Medical Heritage Center collections. Thus far the scholar-in-residence program has supported the publication of nine books and twenty scholarly articles. The Center also supports a monthly workshop for writers working on any related aspect to the medical humanities. The workshop provides academic and local historians, students, and medical professionals with a common interest the chance to network and have their materials reviewed and receive feedback. The Center also has actively sought out current notable community figures and has recorded their oral histories for use by future researchers. To date eighty-three oral histories have been recorded by the MHC's oral history program.



The exhibit area when hosting the NLM traveling exhibition *Frankenstein:*Penetrating the Secrets of Nature

The Center also promotes health humanities sciences scholarship and knowledge through programming. The MHC is home to the Nathaniel Coleman, MD, the James V. Warren, M.D., and the John C. Burnham, PhD lectures. These endowed lectures provide an avenue for sharing information and discussing issues of significant medical importance in the past, present, and future by local and nationally recognized scholars in the health and medical professions. The Center also sponsors an annual Nursing History Lecture. The MHC creates and develops historic exhibits independently and in concert with others. These exhibits highlight special aspects of the medical humanities to provide a clearer understanding of the past and future of the health sciences.

During the thirteen years since its inception, the OSU Medical Heritage Center has grown from a few scattered collections to a vibrant institution with internationally-used collections that also support the needs of local community researchers. The Center has a collection that truly speaks to the unique richness of central Ohio, while speaking to the deeper roots of this heritage. In addition to collections, the Center also has proactively promoted this legacy through the development of targeted scholarship

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programs, public programming, and exhibits. In the future, the Center plans to develop more of a digital collection presence to increase access and proactively collect materials from traditionally-underrepresented communities.

Visit us on the web at: <a href="http://mhc.med.ohio-state.edu/">http://mhc.med.ohio-state.edu/</a>.

### Judith Wiener, MA, MLIS

Assistant Director for Special Collections and Outreach The Ohio State University Prior Health Sciences Library

### Kristin Rodgers, MLIS

Collections Curator

The Ohio State University Medical Heritage Center

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# NEWS FROM THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

# NLM Releases the Adrian Kantrowitz Papers on Profiles in Science

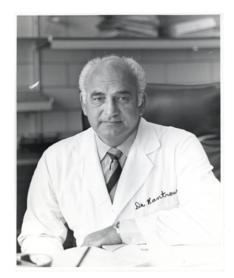


Image courtesy of the National Library of Medicine

As part of its Profiles in Science project, the NLM has digitized and made available over the World Wide Web a selection of the Adrian Kantrowitz Papers, for by educators and researchers. Kantrowitz (1918-2008) is best known for performing the first human heart transplant in the United States, three days after South Africa's Christiaan Barnard performed the world's first such operation in December 1967. For most of his career however, Kantrowitz was one of America's most prolific surgeon-inventors, whose innovations included cardiac pacemakers, mechanical left heart devices, and the intra-aortic balloon pump, which is still used in thousands of cardiac patients each year. His

pioneering research consistently explored and elucidated the potentials as well as the limitations of bioelectronic technology. The National Library of Medicine is the repository



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for the Adrian Kantrowitz Papers, which range from 1944 to 2004. Profiles in Science features correspondence, published articles, and photographs from the Adrian Kantrowitz Papers at the National Library of Medicine. Visitors to the site can view, for example, photos of the first human heart transplant done in the United States, Kantrowitz's correspondence with other physicians about implanting the early pacemaker models, and correspondence with electrical engineers who helped fabricate prototypes of his pacemakers and other cardiac assist devices. The URL for the site is <a href="http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/GN/">http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/GN/</a>.

# The Edwin Smith Egyptian Medical Papyrus: Turning The Pages' Latest Project

The National Library of Medicine is pleased to announce that the Edwin Smith Papyrus, the world's oldest known surgical document, is now available to view online at <a href="http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/ttp/flash/smith/smith.html">http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/ttp/flash/smith/smith.html</a>. The Smith Papyrus was written in Egyptian hieratic script around the 17th century BCE but probably based on material from a thousand years earlier. This collaborative online representation features an important new translation by James P. Allen, formerly of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and high-resolution scans lent by the scroll's owner, the New York Academy of Medicine.

"We are delighted to collaborate with NLM in bringing the Edwin Smith Surgical Papyrus to a much wider audience and the use of interactive technology will allow researchers and the public to explore the document more deeply," said Academy President Jo Ivey Boufford, MD.

"The Smith Papyrus is extremely important," added NLM Director Donald A.B. Lindberg, MD, "because it showed for the first time that Egyptians had a scientific understanding of traumatic injuries based on observable anatomy rather than relying on magic or potions." The text is a treatise on trauma surgery and consists of 48 cases dealing with wounds and trauma. Each case is laid out using a carefully prescribed formula: a description of the injury; diagnosis; prognosis; treatment; and further explanations of the case, which resemble footnotes.

"This papyrus is unlike most other medical papyri in that it is chiefly rational and does not usually bring the supernatural into the explanations or treatments for injuries - for instance, there is only one incantation," said Michael North, curator of the project and of rare books in the Library's History of Medicine Division.



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Fortunately for potential viewers of the scroll, the computer scientists at the National Library of Medicine also relied on sound scientific principles rather than magic to devise a system that allows the unfurling of the scroll on a computer. "The technical challenges of digitally transforming and making this scroll available on a personal computer were enormous," said George Thoma, PhD, chief of the Communications Engineering Branch at NLM's Lister Hill Center. Dr. Thoma led the Library's technical efforts and team. "The memory requirements were immense, so we had to come up with ways to manage the memory for home use. We created the illusion of rolling and unrolling by superimposing the frame by frame animation of the rolled section of the scroll on the large image of the entire papyrus."

In addition, creative animation techniques, dealing with bend modifying and lattice deformation, were necessary in order for the scroll to unroll and flip over correctly. Also, to explore the graceful, two-color calligraphy, a "zoom" mode offers a roving magnifying window, the design for which came with its own complexity.

NLM computer scientists were also faced with the challenge of putting the scroll back together in the first place. When Edwin Smith, an American dealer and collector of antiquities, acquired the papyrus in Egypt in 1862, it consisted of a single scroll about 15 feet long with some loose fragments, but it was cut into 17 columns sometime in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The leaves had to be digitally "stitched" together to recreate the original appearance of the scroll. "As far as I know, we may be the only Library in the world that has mastered the computation and technology to create an easily usable virtual scroll for a personal computer user," Dr. Thoma added.

The British Library created *Turning The Pages*, but NLM has collaborated with that institution to create its own version. There are now six books, in addition to the scroll, in the online version. Two touch-screen versions are also on view at the National Library of Medicine, on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland.

For *Turning The Pages* technical requirements for computers: <a href="http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/ttp/requirements.htm">http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/ttp/requirements.htm</a>.

# NLM Creates "Directory of History of Medicine Collections" Database

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) is pleased to announce the creation of the *Directory of History of Medicine Collections* database. This unique resource is available at: <a href="http://www.cf.nlm.nih.gov/hmddirectory/index.html">http://www.cf.nlm.nih.gov/hmddirectory/index.html</a>.

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The *Directory of History of Medicine Collections* aims to serve as a resource to provide information about history of health sciences collections worldwide. The collections described in the *Directory* database provide research, reference and interlibrary loan services to scholars interested in the history of the health sciences.

The database is keyword searchable, with the ability to refine your search results by categories: organization type, state/province, country, collection subject strengths and organization name.

To view the table of contents, which is arranged alphabetically by U.S. state, and city, followed by other countries listed alphabetically, go to:

http://wwwcf.nlm.nih.gov/hmddirectory/directory/locations.cfm.

The NLM invites libraries, archives, and museums, which include in their collections holdings in the history of medicine and health sciences to become part of the *Directory*. For details on how to add your collection to the database, please see "About the Directory," at: <a href="http://www.cf.nlm.nih.gov/hmddirectory/directory/about.cfm">http://www.cf.nlm.nih.gov/hmddirectory/directory/about.cfm</a>.

NLM encourages collections to keep their entries up to date. New and revised data can be sent directly to the History of Medicine Division. To learn more, click on the "Edit Your Collection" link on the main page and read, "How do I update or edit my collection listed in the Directory."

# New Web Exhibition Launched: "An Iconography of Contagion"

An Iconography of Contagion: A Web Exhibition of 20th-Century Health Posters has been launched in a new online version, on the National Library of Medicine web site, at <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/iconographyofcontagion/index.html">http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/iconographyofcontagion/index.html</a>. The site, which is adapted from the exhibition of the same name, hosted by the National Academy of Sciences in 2008, features more than 20 health posters from the 1920s to the 1990s, from North America, Europe, Asia and Africa. Using images that are by turns beautiful, humorous, jarring and unexpected; they cover infectious diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, AIDS, gonorrhea and syphilis. In pictures, text and captions, An Iconography of Contagion shows the interplay between medical science, politics, public understanding of disease, war, and cultural values and prejudices. It was curated by medical historian Michael Sappol in NLM's History of Medicine Division.



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Public health took a visual turn about 100 years ago. In an era of devastating epidemic and endemic infectious disease, health professionals began to organize coordinated campaigns that sought to mobilize public and government action through eye-catching posters, pamphlets and motion pictures. Impressed by the images of mass media that increasingly saturated the world around them, health campaigners were inspired to present new figures of contagion, and recycle old ones, using modernist aesthetics, graphic manipulations, humor, dramatic lighting, painterly abstraction, distortions of perspective and other visual strategies. They devised a new iconography of contagion that emphasized visual legibility and the pleasure of the view.

Meanwhile, *Iconography of Contagion*, the physical exhibition, is on tour through Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences. For booking information, please contact Alana Quinn at <a href="mailto:aquinn@nas.edu">aquinn@nas.edu</a> and 202-334-2415.

### Jeffrey S. Reznick

Deputy Chief, History of Medicine Division National Library of Medicine

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### **NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME LIBRARY**

# New Head of the Wellcome Library

A new Head of the Wellcome Library has been appointed. Dr Simon Chaplin started his new position at the beginning of February.

Dr Chaplin was previously Director of Museums and Special Collections at The Royal College of Surgeons of England, where he managed the Hunterian Museum - an accredited public museum containing the designated collection of the surgeon John Hunter (1728-1793) - and the Wellcome Museum of Anatomy and Pathology, a modern medical teaching collection.

"I am very excited about this appointment," explained Clare Matterson, Director of Medical Humanities and Engagement at the Wellcome Trust. "Simon demonstrated a real passion for opening up the collections in the Library - and has shown how he can successfully lead a transformation during his time at the Hunterian."

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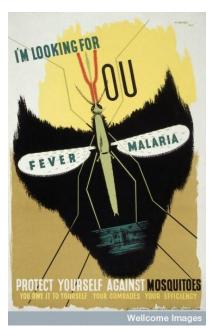
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Dr Chaplin commented: "The Wellcome Library's collections are a fantastic resource with appeal to a wide range of audiences. I am delighted to be joining the Library, and look forward to working with staff, users and stakeholders to develop and implement the Library

Strategy."

More details on the appointment are available on the Wellcome Trust's website (<a href="http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/News/Media-office/Press-releases/2010/WTX058644.htm">http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/News/Media-office/Press-releases/2010/WTX058644.htm</a>).

### Getting the Message Across



Colour lithograph after A. Games, 1941. Wellcome Library no. 202761i

Getting the Message Across: Public Health Campaigns, published by WHO Press, was launched at a reception in the Wellcome Library on 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

The publication of this book marked the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World Health Organization (WHO) and featured posters from around the world used in health communications campaigns over the past six decades.

The book contains a selection of public health posters from all WHO regions presented in chronological order. The posters originate from many sources, including the archives, regional offices and technical departments of WHO as well as the Wellcome Library, the National Library of Medicine, the International Institute of Social History. the Johns Hopkins Media-Materials

Clearinghouse and other private collectors. Themes covered include vaccination, sanitation, safety in the workplace, nutrition and exercise.

The posters featured have translations in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, and illustrate how since the 1940s the design of public health posters has evolved with respect to cultural diversity, advertising trends, government regulations and health priorities.

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A man in protective clothing holding an electric arc welding rod, with an earthed attachment below symbolising the need to earth the material being welded. Colour lithograph after L. Cusden. Wellcome Library no. 32566i

### UK Web Archive launched

On the 24<sup>th</sup> February, the British Library hosted the launch of the UK Web Archive (<a href="http://www.webarchive.org.uk/ukwa/">http://www.webarchive.org.uk/ukwa/</a>). The archive is an important tool in the preservation of the UK's online heritage.

The Wellcome Library has contributed a range of websites to the archive, those of organisations as well as individuals. Some of the material is unique, such as the Personal Experiences of Illness collection

(http://www.webarchive.org.uk/ukwa/collection/98492/page/1/source/collection), which features the websites of individuals, describing in very personal terms their experiences with illness.

The UK Web Archive is free to view and has already collected over 6,000 selected websites since it was set up in mid-2005.

# Recently Catalogued Archive Collections

The catalogued papers of **George Cuthbert Mura M'Gonigle** (1888-1939), Medical Officer of Health in Stockton-on-Tees, are now available for consultation in the Wellcome Library. The papers relate to M'Gonigle's professional career and public health interests



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in the 1920s and 1930s, including a series of correspondence and subject files, amongst which are several that cast light on his relationship with the Ministry of Health, published and unpublished writings and press-cuttings.

In addition to M'Gonigle's views on nutrition, the papers contain useful material on a number of other inter-war public health issues, including maternity and child welfare, school health, housing and birth control. They include, for example, M'Gonigle's personal set of papers of the Inter-departmental Committee on Abortion (the Birkett Committee).

Work also continues on the papers of the British Psychological Society, which are being released gradually as they are catalogued. The papers of both **Charlotte Wolff** and **Henri Tajfel** are now available to consult.

Credited as the principal co-developer of Social Identity Theory, Tajfel's papers cover his extensive involvement with numerous social psychological societies; his lecture notes; and papers submitted by him to various journals and delivered at conferences and seminars from the 1960s to the 1980s. There is also extensive correspondence concerning books, journal articles and letters both published and unpublished by other social psychologists of the time.

Charlotte Wolff was born in West Prussia in 1897, and later studied philosophy and medicine in Berlin, where she was awarded a medical doctorate in 1928 and where she worked until immigrating to Paris in 1933. She moved to London in 1936 with the help of Aldous and Maria Huxley.

By this stage Wolff had begun to specialize in cheirology (the study of the hand) going as far as developing a theory of diagnosis via the hand. In exile in France and England, she carried on this research – including analysing the hands of Virginia Woolf – and publishing her results. In 1941, in recognition of her work, she was made an honorary member of the British Psychological Society.

Shortly after the completion of her book *The Hand in Psychological Diagnosis* (1951), Wolff was finally registered as a doctor in Britain, and started practising again. Her research diversified into lesbianism and bisexuality, and won international recognition in these areas, influencing particularly the German lesbian movement of the 1970s.

The catalogues for these papers can be viewed by entering 'PP/GMG' (for M'Gonigle) 'PSY/TAJ' (for Tajfel) or 'PSY/WOL' (for Wolff) in the reference field of the search



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interface of the Wellcome Library's Archives and Manuscripts online catalogue (<a href="http://archives.wellcome.ac.uk">http://archives.wellcome.ac.uk</a>).

The papers are available subject to the usual conditions of access to Archives and Manuscripts material, after the completion of a Reader's Undertaking. Please note that parts of these papers are subject to specified restrictions or closure periods for the purposes of data protection.

#### **Ross MacFarlane**

Research Officer Wellcome Library

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### **NEW MEMBER PROFILES**

# Nancy Wing



**Hometown:** San Diego, California. Currently live in Rockville, Maryland.

Current Employer: Librarian in the Archives Library Information Center at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington, D.C. I will have been with NARA 6 years this coming June.

### **Education:**

- B.A. in History (with honors), California State University, San Marcos, 2000
- M.L.I.S. specializing in archives, San Jose State University, 2002
- Practicum at the Austrian National Library in Vienna

**Professional Interests:** Preservation, and Civil War history and Civil War medicine.

Other facts, interests or hobbies: Reading, genealogy and working out in the gym. I love visiting historic sites and traveling

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### Megan Curran



Hometown: Philadelphia, PA

**Current Employer:** University of Southern California's Norris Medical Library. I'm Head of Metadata and Content Management and am coming up on my one year anniversary at the beginning of May.

### **Education:**

- B.A. in Global Journalism, French Minor from Drexel University
- M.L.I.S. specializing in archives, San Jose State University, 2002

**Professional Interests:** I've got a passion for rare books, especially in the fields of medicine and science. Since I've come to USC as Metadata Librarian I've done a lot of work to promote our rare books collection and get it to be more accessible. In January I presented a paper at the MLGSCA (Medical Library Group of Southern California and Arizona) called "Reconnecting patrons to medicine's past: breathing new life into an underused medical rare book collection" in which I've detailed some of the changes I've implemented here and future plans for promoting the collection. My other duties at Norris include overseeing the Technical Services department, being the copyright advisor for the library, and negotiating license agreements and managing access to electronic resources.

Other facts, interests or hobbies: Before I became a librarian, I was a professional journalist. In Philadelphia I was a producer for *Morning Edition* on WHYY, Philadelphia's NPR news station. I was also an on-air reporter there for three years covering both local news and arts, and produced episodes for a few national shows as well. After that I worked at Elsevier in the journals marketing department while volunteering as a cataloger at the AIDS Library and as a docent at The Rosenbach Museum and Library, where I first fell in love with rare books and book history.

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### COLLECTIONS

### CHFM Announces New Online Collection Catalog Resource

The Center for the History of Family Medicine (CHFM) is proud to announce that it will have available the first catalog of its collections online as an important new resource in the study of Family Medicine history.

This first edition of the *Guide to the Collections of the Center for the History of Family Medicine* offers visitors and researchers a first-ever comprehensive look at the collections of the CHFM, and is the result of more than four years of cataloging, inventorying, and reorganization work done on the Center's collections. The *Guide* is available as a free, downloadable and fully searchable pdf file through the Center's website at:

http://www.aafpfoundation.org/online/foundation/home/programs/center-history/collections.html

The *Guide* features a complete listing of the Center's archival, library and museum holdings, which serve to document the history, development and practice of Family Medicine throughout the history of the specialty.

The Center's holdings include several major areas: 1) an archives, featuring the holdings of the seven Family Medicine organizations comprising the "Family of Family Medicine," namely: the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP); the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation (AAFP/F); the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM); the Association of Departments of Family Medicine (ADFM); the Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors (AFMRD); the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG); and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM), as well as manuscript collections of prominent family physicians and Family Medicine leaders, educators and staff; 2) an historical research library containing books written by and about family physicians and reference materials relating to Family Medicine; and 3) a museum collection of medical artifacts relating to the specialty for display and exhibition. All of the collections within the Center serve to document the history of Family Medicine's changing role in delivering health care and advocating for patients.



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In announcing the new *Guide*, CHFM Manager Don Ivey said that it was developed as part of the Center's ongoing commitment to preserve and share all areas of the history of the specialty. "As the only historical resource center devoted exclusively to telling the story of General Practice, Family Practice, and Family Medicine in the United States, we believe that this *Guide* will be a unique and valuable resource for researchers, historians, and family physicians alike," Ivey said. He also emphasized that the *Guide* is still a work in progress. "As our holdings continually evolve and expand, so will our catalog," Ivey noted, adding that the *Guide* will be updated online annually.

The CHFM is located at the national headquarters of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) in Leawood, Kansas and is part of the non-profit AAFP Foundation. For more information on the Center, contact Center staff via telephone at 1-800-274-2237 (ext. 4420 or 4422), via fax at (913) 906-6095, or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:chfm@aafp.org">chfm@aafp.org</a>, or visit us on the web at <a href="mailto:www.aafpfoundation.org/chfm">www.aafpfoundation.org/chfm</a>.

### Don Ivey, MPA

Manager

Center for the History of Family Medicine

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# T. Berry Brazelton Papers and Harvard Fatigue Laboratory Records Open

The Center for the History of Medicine at Countway Library, Harvard Medical School, is pleased to announce the opening of two recently processed collections: the T. Berry Brazelton Papers (1949-2007) and the Harvard Fatigue Laboratory Records (1916-1952). Guides to both collections, which approach the study of physical and psychological development from unique research perspectives, are available online via OASIS, Harvard University's centralized repository for electronic finding aids.

**T. Berry Brazelton** (1918-), pediatrician and author, is the founder and former director of the Child Development Unit at Children's Hospital, Boston and the developer of the Neonatal Behavioral Assessment Scale (NBAS), often referred to as "the Brazelton." The NBAS was developed to assess the physical and neurological responses of newborns and is used worldwide in clinical and research settings. In addition to his research, Brazelton is also the author of several books on child development, including



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Infants and Mothers (1969) and Touchpoints (1993), as well as monthly columns in Redbook and Family Circle and a syndicated weekly newspaper column. Brazelton hosted the Emmy Award-winning television program, "What Every Baby Knows," wrote a cover story for the New York Times Magazine in 1989 entitled, "Why Is America Failing Its Children?" in which he detailed the plight of disadvantaged children, and in 1993 helped lobby for passage of the Family Leave Act.

The bulk of the papers contain research and administrative records from the Child Development Unit during Brazelton's tenure as director and include audiovisual research records, correspondence, grant records, financial records, consultation reports, and personnel records. Also included in the collection are Brazelton's writings, lectures and speaking notes, correspondence from consumers, and memorabilia. The finding aid for the collection is located at: http://nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:HMS.Count:med00118.

The **Harvard Fatigue Laboratory** was founded in 1927 at Harvard Business School to study the psychological, physiological, and sociological stresses on human behavior and to apply that knowledge to better understand relevant problems in labor and industry. Lawrence Joseph Henderson (1878-1942), Professor of Biological Chemistry at Harvard University, was the Fatigue Lab's first director. David Bruce Dill (1891-1986) and Ancel Keys (1904-2004) also served on the staff, which encompassed a wide range of disciplines, reflected in the lab's diverse areas of research. The outbreak of World War II saw the activities of the Fatigue Lab shift to meet the needs of the United States military. The lab was contracted with the War Department to make recommendations on living conditions for military personnel operating in extreme hot and cold environments and ultimately over 150 recommendations were made regarding clothing, nutrition, and survival gear. Despite efforts to transition to peacetime research, the Fatigue Lab did not survive long after the end of the war. Plans to transfer the lab to the Harvard School of Public Health were delayed and eventually abandoned, and it was disbanded in 1947.

The Fatigue Lab records consist of correspondence, research records, reports, writings and publications, photographs, and filmstrips that are the product of the Lab's research and administrative activities. The bulk of the collection consists of research records, including a large number of laboratory notebooks, from projects undertaken for the United States military during World War II. Also included in the records are the lab's professional correspondence, writings by the lab's staff members, and publicity photographs taken during the war. The finding aid for the collection is located at: http://nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:HMS.Count:med00120.



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For further information please contact the Center for the History of Medicine at chm@hms.harvard.edu.

### **Bryan Sutherland**

Processing Archivist
Center for the History of Medicine
Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine
Harvard Medical School

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### **EXHIBITIONS**

### New Exhibit at the Countway Library on Oliver Wendell Homes, M.D.

Physician, lecturer, poet, novelist, inventor, historian, anatomist, teacher, and humorist, Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894) has been called "the most successful combination which the world has ever seen of the physician and man of letters." This fall, the Countway Library's Center for the History of Medicine celebrates the bicentennial of Holmes' birth with a new exhibit, *The Scalpel and the Pen: the Life and Work of Oliver Wendell Holmes, M.D.*, touching on all the different sides of the personal and professional career of this Boston original.

Holmes' long association with Harvard Medical School—as alumnus, professor, and dean—along with his significance to the Boston Medical Library as president and benefactor have left an extraordinary treasure trove of items now in the Countway Library's collections and the Warren Anatomical Museum. The Scalpel and the Pen brings to light rare early medical works from Holmes' personal library, books and pamphlets, such as a first edition of the best-selling The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table, first editions of his three "medicated" novels, and the first publication of his ground-breaking research into the question of the contagiousness of puerperal fever. There are also broadsides, manuscripts of his poems and lectures, letters, anatomical specimens and microscopes used in his teaching, original artwork and photographs. Several unusual artifacts are also on display - many of which Holmes himself describes in his correspondence and publications - including one of his famous chambered nautilus



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shells, a bronze cast of his fist, and a unique ivory paper knife inscribed with a poem and presented to Holmes by his colleague, physician and novelist, S. Weir Mitchell.

The Countway Library is on the campus of the Harvard Medical School, at 10 Shattuck Street, in Boston, and *The Scalpel and the Pen* will be on display in the exhibit areas of the Library through October 2010. For additional information, contact Jack Eckert, Public Services Librarian, at 617-432-6207 or jack\_eckert@hms.harvard.edu.

#### **Jack Eckert**

Public Services Librarian
Center for the History of Medicine
Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine
Harvard Medical School

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#### Colbert Exhibit

The Waring Historical Library and MUSC University Archives are pleased to announce the opening of the new web exhibit: *With Integrity and Dignity: The Life of James W. Colbert, Jr., M.D.* <a href="http://waring.library.musc.edu/exhibits/colbert/">http://waring.library.musc.edu/exhibits/colbert/</a>. This exhibit tells the story of Dr. Colbert's life through the use of archival records, photographs, and oral history interviews conducted with Dr. Colbert's colleagues and his family.

#### Susan Hoffius, MLS

Curator, Waring Historical Library Medical University of South Carolina

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#### **MISCELLANEA**

### Medical Theses Digitization Project at the Waring Historical Library

The Waring Historical Library of the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) recently was awarded a National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) Southeastern/Atlantic Region grant for \$5,000 to transcribe and digitize 132 inaugural

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dissertations and theses written between 1825 and 1829. The 1,858 inaugural medical theses in the collection of the Waring Historical Library are, in the words of eminent medical historian John Harley Warner, "one of the finest extant collections of antebellum American medical theses." In 1986, Roberta Burkett, Warren Sawyer and Curtis Worthington published *A Bibliography of Inaugural Theses of Graduating Students of the Medical College of the State of South Carolina*. In his forward to this volume, John Warner wrote that "the collection of the Medical College of the State of South Carolina deposited at the Waring Historical Library represents a remarkably large and complete collection spanning a critical period of transition in the history of both of American medicine and of the South."

Despite the publication of the bibliography, the inaugural theses in the Waring Historical Library remain an under-utilized resource. While we receive many scholars a year who visit the library specifically to use the theses, a lack of any keyword searchability combined with their fair-to-poor physical condition limit their broader usability. It is hoped that by creating digital surrogates with keyword search functions this valuable resource will reach a larger audience.

Beginning on March 1st and lasting one year, this project will result in the digitization of 132 of theses. Each hand-written thesis ranges from 15 to 40 pages. A total of approximately 2,400 pages of medical theses will then be loaded into the library's Digital Library, MEDICA.

#### Susan Hoffius, MLS

Curator, Waring Historical Library Medical University of South Carolina

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#### Call for Article Submissions

*JMLA*, the peer-reviewed journal for of the Medical Library Association, is calling for papers to include in a focus issue devoted to the history of the health sciences. Papers must meet guidelines for submission to JMLA, which are available at

http://www.mlanet.org/publications/jmla/jmlainfo.html. For this focus issue papers are not to exceed 6,000 words (not including abstract and references). Deadline for all submissions is June 7, 2010 to meet a target publication date of January 2011. The following topical themes are deemed appropriate: History of medical libraries and/or librarianship; history of the book, printing, reading as it relates to the health sciences and



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medical bibliography; history of special collections in health care professions (e.g., nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary medicine); or articles related to the professional concerns of librarians in managing historical collections (innovations, outreach, best practices). Those interested should send manuscripts in MS Word or MS Word compatible format as an e-mail attachment to the issue organizer, Michael A. Flannery at flannery@uab.edu.

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### Historical Collections at the University of Virginia Health Sciences Library

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#### Joan Echtenkamp Klein

Alvin V. and Nancy Baird Curator for Historical Collections Claude Moore Health Sciences Library University of Virginia Health System

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# Book Announcement: John Shaw Billings: Science and Medicine in the Gilded Age

James H. Cassedy's book on John Shaw Billings *John Shaw Billings: Science and Medicine in the Gilded Age* has just been published. It deals with Billings' career in army medicine, public health, building sanitation and medical policies and practices in the U.S. Federal government.

James Cassedy was the editor of *The Bibliography of the History of Medicine* and author of books on demography and statistics in American medicine and a general text *Medicine in America: A Short History*.



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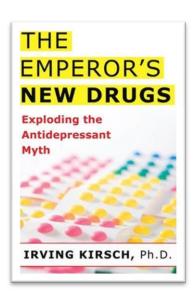
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The book is available on the web from Xlibris Publishing (<a href="https://www2.xlibris.com/bookstore/default.aspx">https://www2.xlibris.com/bookstore/default.aspx</a>) and will shortly be available online from Barnes and Noble and Amazon.

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#### **BOOK REVIEWS**

Kirsch, Irving, *The Emperor's New Drugs: Exploding the Antidepressant Myth (*New York: Basic Books, 2010)



Readers should approach controversial books like Dr. Irving Kirsch's with a hefty amount of skepticism, and it seems that Kirsch would prefer it that way as well. Instead pointed polemic on the evils of pharmaceutical medicine, Kirsch offers an even-handed but personal journey of changes in his understanding. Through years of meta-analytical research and studies of Kirsch transformed the placebo effect. psychotherapist believed who in and antidepressants, to someone who came to an entirely different (and rather unpopular) clinical opinion on the effectiveness of antidepressants and the nature of depression as a whole.

When an author posits a contrary viewpoint to deeply held beliefs about a prevailing idea, especially one as close to people's daily lives as medicine, it is easy for an author to fall into crackpot territory while trying to argue his point. Dr. Kirsch avoids this pitfall with his cogent, simple phrasing and his disinclination to avoid mentioning parts of his hypothesis for which he does not have ready answers. Kirsch claims to want to present the facts that he uncovered in an impartial fashion and let the reader decide for himself. He nimbly describes sophisticated statistical measurements using short, declarative sentences and illustrative metaphors that are easy for the layperson to follow. Also, to his credit, he does not balk at pointing out methodological or logical flaws in his own and others' meta-analyses, even when their uncorrected assertions would support his claim.



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So what exactly is Kirsch claiming here? Kirsch has adapted the once-controversial method of meta-analysis to look at antidepressant drug clinical trials submitted to the FDA; some of these trials have been published in scholarly journals and some have never been published. The data reveal that antidepressants are just as effective as placebos in curing major depression. He's not, however, claiming that the drugs don't work. They do, but the placebo effect is just as strong. Cognitive Behavioral Psychotherapy is equally effective as both, but has a much better long-term success rate, fewer instances of relapse, and without active drug side effects. When faced with the years of meta-analysis data from Kirsch and many other researchers, coupled with Kirsch's assertions from pharmaceutical companies and researchers that this phenomenon is well-established, suddenly his claims don't seem quite so controversial, but more just an exposure of the gap of working knowledge between researchers and drug manufacturers on one side and their customers (prescribing physicians and patients) on the other. Perhaps it is a testament to Kirsch's writerly skills that it appears so evident that Kirsch might be getting the equivalent of professional ire of a magician exposing trade secrets.

Although Kirsch spends most of his words in this slim volume acquainting readers with the ins and outs of the placebo effect and all of the strange forms it can take, his more controversial assertion is his rejection of the chemical-imbalance theory of depression. Again, he makes a compelling, evidence-based case against the theory by revealing the origins of the discovery of depression's basis in lowered levels of monoamines, and the swift (but largely ignored) reversal of that assertion. In fact, the drug whose side effects caused the original observation that lowered serotonin levels in the brain cause depression was later prescribed as an antidepressant. The mere existence of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and selective serotonin reuptake enhancer (SSREs) in the same drug market, working towards the same end of alleviating depression by doing the exact opposite chemical effect -- inhibiting and enhancing serotonin reuptake -- and that they are equally successful in this effort, goes to show that there must be an inherent logical flaw.

It's at this point that the argument gets even more controversial. Kirsch contends that depression is not a physiologically-based illness although its manifests are certainly physiological as well as psychological. He poses the possibility that a normally functioning brain that learns to perceive and react to the world in a certain way is capable of producing these effects. Psychotherapy as the learning of new ways of thinking and perceiving is, then "quintessential placebo" in that it gives hope to the



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depressed and thereby alleviates their depression. Kirsch writes that the enduring myths of antidepressant drug effectiveness and chemical imbalance theory perpetuate each other in a chicken-and-egg scenario without basis in scientific fact, and that this area of science is on the cusp of a Kuhnian paradigm shift.

While thought-provoking, there are some problematic assertions in Kirsch's overall argument, but they are small. One is that a lot of the physiological evidence he cites as gospel is based on new neuroimaging techniques that are not without their own controversies about what is actually being shown when areas of the brain light up in reaction to stimuli. Another is that this line of thinking can potentially slide into the realm of Christian Science, where getting and overcoming illnesses are solely a product of the mind and its power of belief. The idea of depression as a disease has been a comfort to those whose afflictions were once viewed as some sort of character weakness, and to take away the notion that it is a disease with reliable, medicinal cures could send some patients into a tailspin of despair. But as long as the research towards a new paradigm of depression is undertaken in a responsible scientific fashion, the march towards scientific truth is paramount despite its initial discomforts. It will be interesting to see how this line of research evolves, and even more interesting to see how much of it trickles out into the mainstream media and how it is dealt with there. Of course, pharmaceutical companies have a vested commercial interest in the outcome of this debate, but in a way, so does everyone. Those working in the field, prescribing, or taking antidepressants could do worse than reading this book with a necessarily critical eye and coming to their own conclusions about the merit of Kirsch's arguments.

#### Megan Curran

Head of Metadata & Content Management Norris Medical Library University of Southern California

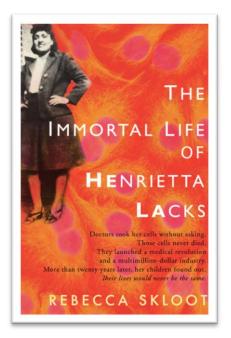
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# Skloot, Rebecca, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* (New York: Crown Publishers, 2010)

As this review is being written journalist Rebecca Skloot's *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* has been on the *New York Times*' Best Seller List for five weeks, a meteoric rise for a first-time book author. And for good reason; this is a complex story engagingly and

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masterfully told. Skloot recounts the first successful survival and growth of human cells in a cultured medium. Known to science as HeLa, these relentlessly prolific cells have been indispensable to a wide range of biomedical research and discovery. While HeLa cells are known and used by scientists around the world, less known is the unwitting donor of these cells, Henrietta Lacks. Lacks was a poor African American resident of Clover, Virginia, who sought treatment in 1951 at Johns Hopkins from gynecologist Howard W. Jones. Jones misdiagnosed her aggressive and invasive adenocarcinoma of the cervix for cervical epidermoid carncinoma, an error not uncommon at that time. Despite getting the standard and appropriate treatment of the 1950s, which included radiation

therapy, Henrietta Lacks died fifteen minutes into October 4, 1951. But not her cells and herein hangs a tale.

In tissue samples collected, preserved, and multiplied by researcher George Gey, the eponymously designated "HeLa" cells soon found a ready demand among scientists and today have been replicated in astonishing amounts, one estimate placing them at more than fifty million metric tons! But this is more than a story of science; it is an intensely human story too. Skloot masterfully weaves two narratives; one tracing and explaining the HeLa legacy, the other chronicling the lives of the Lacks family in trajectories that take the reader from the high-tech labs of industry and academia to the low-income neighborhoods of rural and urban America. A leitmotif of this riveting tale of two worlds is the utter miscommunication between physicians and researchers, who think they have communicated their methods and purposes adequately, and the patient and family who nod agreeably to "explanations" that might as well have been given in a foreign language. This raises significant bioethical questions concerning informed consent (still on the horizon in 1951), patient's rights, tissue sampling and its disposition, and others. To Skloot's credit these issues are dealt with fairly, honestly, and in a nonpartisan way. The Afterword gives a particularly thorough examination of the ethical and legal issues involved. Equally to her credit is the sympathetic portrayal of the Lacks family's efforts to uncover the truth of their mother's contribution to science and come to grips with it, a laudable end for any journalist. The limits of a review are utterly inadequate to convey the richly textured and at times painful human interest story painstakingly told by Skloot.



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Having said all this, the book left this reader uneasy on two counts. First, not about the seemingly cavalier if not insensitive treatment—and it certainly was both—of an African American woman by the medical establishment, none of which was technically illegal (anyone familiar with the tragic Tuskegee debacle is all too aware of this dark side of medicine, and indeed the HeLa episode is comparatively mild), but by a disturbing conflation of human cells with humanness. Our cells are not us. Much less are we cancer cells, for in the Henrietta Lacks case the surviving cells taken from her were not normal cells (though both were taken), but cells of her adenocarcinoma. These cells were not the building-blocks of life but the architects of death. Gey noted that her cells "grew unlike any human cells he'd seen," and "that HeLa cells weren't limited by space in the same way other cells were; they could simply divide until they ran out of culture medium" (94). In fact, far from ordinary cells, these had a monstrous quality to them, gobbling up culture media and contaminating other projects in the most furtive ways. So virulent were these abnormal cells that special filters and protective gear had to be implemented to prevent rampant contamination; even today rogue HeLa continues to do millions of dollars worth of damage to ongoing research annually. More importantly, this is not the story of her "immortal life" but of her interminable death.

The paradox that "living" cells can be the source of our death should warn us against such biological reductionism. Her physician understood this by suggesting it was "the best of times" for science but the "worst of times" for the Lackses (219). Nevertheless, throughout the book the conflation persists. Henrietta's daughter Deborah, who passed away in May of 2009, was convinced that HeLa cells *were* her mother, as were many Lacks family members. Skloot ascribes this to a blurring of lines between pop sci-fi and science itself. Skloot also blames it on the Lacks family's penchant for biblical literalism, although "literal" readings of Matt. 10:28, 1 Cor. 15: 44, 50; and James 2:26 make the distinction between the physical body and immaterial spirit sufficiently to suggest simply bad theology as a better explanation. But it's not only the Lackses who fall prey to this fallacy of division. Even researchers like Susan Hsu insist that "their mother will never die as long as the medical science is around" (189). Perhaps Skloot herself facilitates this conflation by the very title of her book. After all, the story's poignancy and edge is appreciably aided by maintaining this willing suspension of disbelief. In short, it *is* good for the book.

This is not entirely the fault of the author, however; it is essentially a flaw intrinsic to the story and its time. That scientists in another day and age would make this mistake



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seems unlikely. William Harvey might see creatures acting *supra vires elementorum* (beyond the powers of their own matter) but he knew the heart was not the creature itself. Unfortunately, today this seems less clear. Such conflations are the consequence of a historic intellectual and philosophical shift that occurred between the early modern period and today. "As a result," observes Arthur Koestler, "man's [or woman's] destiny was no longer determined from 'above' by a super-human wisdom and will, but from 'below' by the sub-human agencies of glands, genes, atoms, or waves of probability." Whether by gods or glands, it seems we are the puppets on a string of some master. "A puppet of the Gods is a tragic figure," Koestler adds, "[but] a puppet suspended on his [or her] chromosomes is merely grotesque" (*The Sleepwalkers*, 550). Henrietta Lacks deserved better and so do we.

A second source of uneasiness comes from the author herself. Although Skloot has quite appropriately established a foundation to "provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships" to the Lacks family <a href="http://rebeccaskloot.com/book-special-">http://rebeccaskloot.com/book-special-</a> features/henrietta-lacks-foundation > and is donating a portion of the book's proceeds to the Henrietta Lacks Foundation (anything less would have been downright unseemly since there clearly would have been no book without the Lacks family's cooperation), Skloot's role in the whole affair becomes a legitimate subject of ethical inquiry. Aware of the dangers of inserting herself into the book itself, Skloot takes that risk, a risk that raises several questions. To what extent did the author push the family to yield details requisite to her narrative? Did she perhaps take undue advantage of an unstable and impressionable Deborah Lacks-by Skloot's own admission, "the soul of this book" (329)—in the interest of getting a "good story"? Did she cross the line from investigative reporting to actually manipulating people better kept at a more professional distance? To what extent do the dramatis personæ succumb to an unintended observer effect by her intimate involvement? To ask these questions is not necessarily to affirm them. Nevertheless, it seems an unavoidable conclusion that The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks is a story that in the telling becomes a double-edged ethical sword. Whether the author herself is injured by it only Skloot and her readers can decide.

#### Michael A. Flannery

Associate Director for Historical Collections Reynolds Historical Library University of Alabama at Birmingham

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American Dental Association, 150 Years of the American Dental Association: A Pictorial History 1859-2009 (Chicago: The American Dental Association, 2009)



When I received a review copy of this book, it was accompanied by a note reminding me that 150 Years of the American Dental Association: A Pictorial History 1859-2009 was not meant to be an exhaustive critical examination of ADA's history. That is true enough, but the note was hardly necessary: this volume stands comfortably on its own merits as a handsomely produced celebratory volume of the very highest quality.

The pictures themselves are, of course, the main attraction, and they have been imaginatively selected and carefully reproduced. There are the requisite portraits of bearded 19<sup>th</sup> century practitioners and slightly scary tools (the illustration of how to use a dental extraction key on page 16 is particularly fine, if one likes that sort of thing), but a real effort has been made to provide a context for all of this. Of course, there are many pictures of banquets and presidential addresses, groundbreaking ceremonies and committee meeting, but this is, after all, the history of an internationally significant professional organization, and these are the milestones along the way. There are timelines and sidebars to give both continuity and detail, and some of the sidelights are fascinating indeed.

Most of the book is rightfully devoted to professional matters such as the advancement of technique and technology, especially as seen in the context of a growing national organization. Many of the photographs come from ADA annual meetings, so there are lots of images of dinners and presentations, and the displays of new hardware that must have been a major draw to the members. But there are other stories told as well, such as the lives of Robert Tanner Freeman (1846-1873) and Ida Gray Nelson (1867-1953), ground-breaking African American dentists. The mini-essay on ADA and the Civil Rights Movement (pp 90-91) is also of particular interest. A good amount of space is also devoted to ADA's public health initiatives, a longstanding activity of the organization. Promoting good oral hygiene has always been an uphill battle, and this volume takes the time to celebrate the invention of the collapsing metal toothpaste tube (1841) and to

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picture a rather mysterious-looking "Toothbrush Testing Machine" that was displayed at the 1949 annual meeting.

Anyone who reads this volume closely will soon come up with a favorite picture or anecdote. It's a personal choice, but mine is the story of Josiah Bacon and the Vulcanite dentures (Vulcanite was an early form of hardened rubber developed by Charles Goodyear in 1844). After the Civil War, Bacon was involved in the production and sale of dentures made of Vulcanite; a market he tried very hard to control, initially with some success. Without being too much of a spoiler (you should read the account for yourself), let me say that Bacon's perhaps overzealous protection of his patent rights led to conflicts, lawsuits, and a murder. Dentistry is obviously a tougher business that than might otherwise be imagined.

The book has its reference uses as well. There is a good index, and multiple appendices, listing former presidents and executive directors, annual meeting sites, winners of various ADA awards, etc. - - - the sort of information that is useful to have in one place. This utility, coupled with high production values, make this a volume that belongs in any library with a professional dental or a history of medicine clientele.

#### **Stephen Greenberg**

Coordinator of Public Services History of Medicine Division National Library of Medicine

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The Watermark (ISSN 1553-7641) is the quarterly publication of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS). It was founded in 1976 to serve as the newsletter of the Association of Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences, but changed its subtitle in 1992 when ALHHS changed its name. OCLC records are # 11902760 (1976-1992) and # 40676801 (1992-present).

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