

ISSN 1553-7641

WATERMARK

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

Volume XXXIV

Number 1

Winter 2010-2011



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Submissions for the Watermark:

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.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

It's that time of year again! The Annual Meeting is only a couple of months away so this issue of *The Watermark* features information about the meeting and related events in Philadelphia. Hats off to the Program Committee, (Elaine Challacombe, Chair, Megan Curran, Brooke Fox, Joan Echtenkamp Klein and Barbara Niss) and Local Arrangements Coordinator Charles Greifenstein. The annual meeting is a great chance to learn about our professions, both formally and informally, catch up with old friends and make new ones. If that is not

incentive enough, the sheer scope of medical museums, libraries and archives, as well as other cultural and historical institutions in Philadelphia will certainly expand your knowledge of medical history and professional practice. Two of these institutions, the College of Physicians of Philadelphia and the Chemical Heritage Foundation, have opened their doors to us and are featured here. Thank you both.

In her article on the meeting program Elaine notes that time has been set aside for members to give short presentations on programming at their institutions or an aspect of their collections. Time is limited to five minutes and will be allotted to those who respond first. If interested contact Elaine Challacombe at e-chal@umn.edu or 612-626-4366.

Finally, as this issue was going to press we were saddened to hear of the death of Lisabeth M. Holloway, one of the founders and former presidents of our organization and an editor of *The Watermark*. A more complete and fitting appreciation of her life and importance to our field will be printed in our next issue.

Chris Lyons

Associate Librarian

Osler Library of the History of Medicine

McGill University

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

I recently returned from the American Historical Association annual meeting in Boston.

Professional meetings in Boston in January may not seem like a great idea, but this was wisely held in the Hynes Convention Center, which is attached to three hotels, some rather upscale shopping and dining, and is moreover about fifty feet from the AMTRAK Back Bay Station. The upshot is that one needn't emerge into the

sunlight (or what passes for sunlight in Boston in January) until you *really* wanted to.

I was in mufti, so to speak, with no official duties for a change, and nothing to do but attend meetings, cruise the book exhibit, and slip unobtrusively by the one circle of Hell that Dante seems to have missed: the AHA Job Center. A psychiatrist acquaintance of mine once estimated that she could pay off all of her student loans by setting up a booth dispensing Xanax, Prozac, and maybe a little Haldol outside the Job Center, rather along the lines of Charles Schultz's Lucy: The Doctor is IN, folks, for just five cents. The Job Center radiated angst as it always has (and I have been going to these meetings for a long time). The atmosphere was not helped by a shiny new article in *Perspectives in History*, AHA's recently re-vamped newsletter, that stated what was obvious to just about everybody: the academic job market in History was just about as bad as it could be. It had not been this bad since the early 1980s (which, come to think of it, was when I first entered the market, newly-minted PhD scroll in my sweaty little hand). I watched for a while (didn't stay long: too depressing), and then wandered off to see what swag I could score from the Book Exhibition. But my thoughts kept wandering back to the Job Center; not because of some "been there, done that" sense of nostalgia, or even some sneaking sense of schadenfreude, but because I saw our neediest patrons there. The independent scholars, the unemployed and the under-employed, the adjuncts without a real academic base or support; all need access to our collections to complete their work. Some of us are legally bound to open our doors to all, while others are required to be more restrictive. However, we all have a professional and ethical

responsibility to grant as a much access to our holdings as our institutional situation (and the physical condition of the material in question!) will allow. It's what we are here to do.

In other news, as they say, plans are being made for our own Annual Meeting, to be held in Philadelphia. As I write this, things are beginning to take shape for what should be an excellent meeting. Elaine Challacombe (Program Committee), Charles Greifenstein (Local Arrangements) and I are reviewing menus, tours, and venues. Philadelphia is a great walking-around city, and without too much comparing of Philadelphia and Boston (as I hail from neither, I have no particular dog in this fight), and without excessive quotations from W.C. Fields, I think we can safely say that Philadelphia in April will be warmer than Boston was in January.

See you all in Philadelphia.

Stephen Greenberg

President

Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences

Silver Spring, Maryland

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ALHHS ANNUAL MEETING 2011: PHILADELPHIA

The Annual Meeting Program

Dinner

We will join our friends from MeMA for dinner at the Chemical Heritage Foundation on Wednesday, April 27th. Dinner will be catered by Steven Starr, one of Philadelphia's best, in the 3rd floor atrium called the Dow Public Square. A drinks reception will be in the Reading Room that adjoins the dinner location.

Ron Brashear, director of the Othmer Library of Chemical History, is not only keeping the exhibits open for us but is helping by subsidizing costs. The Foundation is also hosting refreshments for the reception. The location is lovely and is a short four-block walk from the conference hotel. Feel free to explore the opportunities at the Foundation at <http://www.chemheritage.org/> and join us.

Meeting

Come join us for an exciting day at [the College of Physicians](#). Our program on Thursday, April 28 will be hosted by the College's Library and Mutter Museum. Our colleagues from the Medical Museums Association (MeMA) will join us in the morning for presentations as well as for lunch. The afternoon will see us dividing for the business meeting, then regrouping for tours of the Library and museum storage areas.

ALHHS will be setting aside an hour for presentations from members who would like to discuss their own programming or an aspect of their collections. Time will be limited to five minutes and time on the schedule given to those who respond first. If you are interested in being part of the program, please contact Elaine Challacombe, Program Chair at e-chal@umn.edu or 612-626-4366.

In this economic climate, we are all working to provide the best profile within our institutions, often with limited or no staff. We strive to have the value of our collections recognized in our local community and expose the sometimes hidden opportunities for discovery in our artifacts and documents. Therefore, we have planned a program to help us recognize the value of our collections to the educational community, and the ways we can become indispensable to them and their work.

Our morning presenters will focus on the use of both artifact and paper collections for teaching. We should come away with some tools and inspiration for creative use of our resources to engage new communities of teachers, faculty, and students.

A team from the Legacy Center Archives & Special Collections of the Drexel University College of Medicine will present ***Digital Collections: New Audiences, New Challenges and Opportunities***. The team is Margaret Graham, Managing Archivist, Matt Herbison, Archivist, Melissa Mandell, Project Manager, and Joanne Murray, Director.

Drexel University College of Medicine is the institution formed by the merging of Hahnemann University School of Medicine and the Medical College of Pennsylvania (formerly the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, the first medical school for women in the world). The Legacy Center houses the records focused on women in medicine and homeopathic medicine. More can be learned about the Center at by visiting its [website](#).

The second half of the program will be a representative from the College of Physicians relating their new efforts to use artifacts in teaching. Details are being finalized. Digital examples can be viewed at the Mutter's [website](#).

This is a great opportunity to visit the Library, get a peak at artifact storage, connect with our new colleagues at the College and to welcome Annemarie Brogan to our organization.

Elaine Challacombe

ALHHS Program Chair

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Benjamin Franklin. The Liberty Bell. The Declaration of Independence.

Mummers. Cheese steaks. Rocky running the museum's steps. A tough town where sports fans throw snowballs at Santa Claus.

Well, it's true that Santa in 1968 received a fusillade of snowballs, but the pelting had more to do with anger at the Eagles' disastrous season than meanness of holiday spirit, yet the incident is among the many things for which Philadelphia is known, even to her casual acquaintances. But there is much more to the City of Brotherly Love. It is the home of Comcast and its new skyscraper; where politicians Arlen Specter and Edward Rendell both served as District Attorney; where M. Night Shyamalan makes movies and Gamble and Huff make music; and where Iron Chef Jose Garces continues to develop his craft and runs seven restaurants. It is the home of Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is where you can see Thomas Eakins' painting "The Gross Clinic," the first hospital in North America, the first medical school, and the Mütter Museum.

Founded in 1682 as William Penn's "greene countrie towne," by the time of the Revolution it was the largest city in British North America, remained in the top three for

generations, and, despite the precipitous decline in manufacturing jobs in the “workshop of the world” and the growth of the suburbs and of Sunbelt cities, it remains the 6th largest city in the United States. Today the population has reversed decline, and areas such as Northern Liberties, around Graduate Hospital, and Old City are considered hot areas in which to live. The conference location is itself in Society Hill, an example of successful urban redevelopment.

It is difficult to sum up any large, diverse city and its surrounding metro area. Fortunately for the visitor there is an excellent website to plan a visit run by the [Greater Philadelphia Tourism and Marketing Corporation](#). Just about everything you’d want to know about visiting the area is found on the site, but some highlights are worth noting.

The Sheraton Society Hill is a short walk away from Independence National Historical Park (INHP), with the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall (the latter requires free, timed-entrance tickets, the former is walk-in). At Market and 5th Streets is the new National Museum of American Jewish History; at 6th and Market is the new exhibit on site of the President’s House, where George Washington and John Adams lived. At the far end of Independence Mall is the National Constitution Center, which during the conference will have the exhibit “Spies, Traitors, and Saboteurs: Fear and Freedom in America.” Between Market and Chestnut above Third is the Robert Venturi-designed Franklin Court, on the site where Benjamin Franklin lived and worked. More information about INHP can be had at the Visitor’s Center at 6th and Market.

Beyond the Bell there is much more, both historic and contemporary. The Avenue of the Arts, a designated portion of South Broad Street, is the center for performing arts in the city, anchored by the Kimmel Center. Excellent shopping and dining can be had along Walnut Street and around Rittenhouse Square. Along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway are numerous museums: the Rodin Museum, the Academy of Natural Sciences, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Just off the Parkway is the Franklin Institute, which will have an exhibit from Italy called “Leonardo da Vinci’s Workshop” until the end of May. East of the hotel along the Delaware River and within walking distance is Independence Seaport Museum; further north along Delaware Avenue is the new Sugarland Casino.

Yet further afield are two attractions worth visiting. Longwood Gardens, once the showcase home of Pierre S. du Pont is a world-class horticultural center (at conference time azaleas will be in bloom). Out the Schuylkill Expressway toward King of Prussia is

Valley Forge National Historical Park, site of the Continental Army's epic encampment in the winter of 1777-78.

Philadelphia has an amazing array of restaurants; the area around the hotel abounds with them. Old City is among the hottest areas for nightlife in the city. Venture up 2nd Street or along Headhouse Square and up South Street to see for yourself. There are also good places to eat along Chestnut Street, including Stephen Starr's Buddakan (modern Asian) and Jose Garces' Amada (authentic Spanish tapas). If you care to join a long-running Philadelphia debate, you can decide if you prefer Geno's Steaks (1219 South 9th) or Pat's King of Steaks (1237 East Passyunk).

Librarians and archivists could spend weeks visiting all the archives and libraries in and around Philadelphia. It is one of the few cities to have an organization that promotes group cooperation, the [Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries](#) (PACSCL). Members include the Chemical Heritage Foundation (site of Wednesday's dinner), the College of Physicians of Philadelphia (site of Thursday's program), the American Philosophical Society (located within INHP, the oldest scientific organization in the United States, and which has many medically-related collections), and the University of Pennsylvania, which now owns the collections of Pennsylvania Hospital.

But most importantly, what any sports-loving Philadelphia should be able to tell you is that between April 29 and May 1 the New York Mets will be in town for a three-game series against the Phillies.

History, culture, food, sports. There is much to offer in the city that loves you back.

Charles Greifenstein

Local Arrangements Coordinator

Associate Librarian, Manuscripts Librarian

American Philosophical Society

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PROFILE: COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA

While [the College of Physicians of Philadelphia](#) is not a teaching institution, as a non-profit educational and cultural organization, it fosters academic inquiry and dialogue.

Dedicated to advancing the cause of health while upholding the ideals and heritage of medicine, the College was founded in 1787 by 24 prominent Philadelphians, including John Morgan, MD (1735-1789), founder of America's first medical school and a surgeon in George Washington's army, and Benjamin Rush, MD (1745-1813), a signer of the Declaration of Independence and vigorous advocate of many humanitarian and social causes.



The College, according to its constitution, was founded "to advance the Science of Medicine, and thereby lessen human misery, by investigating the diseases and remedies which are peculiar to our country" and to promote "order and uniformity in the practice of Physick." Dr. Rush, the prime mover behind the founding of the institution, further opined that the College should collect and publish medical observations and inquiries on health-related topics, hold regular meetings, cultivate a botanical garden, and create a medical library. For over two centuries, Rush's vision has been realized and enlarged.

The College has long been consulted by local and state authorities on public health crises. Reports and recommendations have been sent to the Pennsylvania legislature on topics ranging from the harmful effects of spirituous liquors to handling the yellow fever epidemic of 1793. Attesting to this activism in public health policy, politicians, government officials, and medical experts still hold media-covered discussions at the

College. Further, the College was instrumental in the publication of *The Pharmacopeia of the United States* in 1830, long desired as a truly American replacement for the European equivalent. This publication supported a nascent Philadelphia-centered pharmaceutical industry, just as the College fostered an American tradition of medical professionalism.



***De Medicina* by Celsus, 1478. This book was located for the College by Sir William Osler.**

A year after the College was founded, John Morgan's donation of 16 books established a medical library. Other members followed suit and, soon, they determined to collect books, provide an adequate place to keep them, and institute borrowing procedures. The greatest benefactor of the library to date has been bibliophile Samuel Lewis, MD (1813-1890), who donated thousands of books to the College, including medical incunabula and a first edition of William Harvey's *De Motu Cordis*. For a time, the library functioned as the pre-eminent medical reference institution in the country, and well into the 20th century the College had been the best place for local medical students, physicians, and other health professionals to study the current literature.

The proliferation of electronic databases has forced a change in the mission of the library, now the [Historical Medical Library](#). On-

going, grant-funded strategic planning and analysis are defining the scope and collecting priorities of the library. With limited staff, the College has contracted with Drexel University for archival services, most recently to process a large and complex institutional archive of material from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Further, the College has received support from the Council on Library and Information Resources and the Philadelphia-Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries to process "hidden collections." Most important for the future of the library, the College has formed the Medical Heritage Digital Collaborative with other major medical history collections including Harvard, Yale, Columbia, and Johns Hopkins Universities, the New York Academy of Medicine, National Library of Medicine, and the Wellcome Library in London. The Collaborative aims to (1) to create a new search platform (2) that affords access to selective, digitized medical history resources unique to each member

institution. [see "Shaping a Digital Library for Medical Heritage," [*Watermark*](#), Vol. XXXIII, No. 3 (Summer 2010) – ed.]

The College acquired its other important collection from Fellow Thomas Dent Mütter, MD (1811-1859), a popular teacher and early practitioner of plastic surgery. His bequest of thousands of anatomical specimens and models (accompanied by an endowment for a curator), with the College's own small collection of pathological anatomy, created the [Mütter Museum](#) which opened its doors in 1863. The inventory quickly grew and achieved national prominence with acquisitions including the skull collection of Viennese anatomist Joseph Hyrtl, MD (1811-1894), Dr. Adam Politzer's (1835-1920) collection of tympanic membranes, and the *post-mortem* plaster cast of the Siamese Twins Chang and Eng Bunker (and their actual conjoined livers), whose autopsy was performed at the College in 1874. Now attracting 120,000 visitors yearly, the museum continues to collect and features temporary exhibits including the medical dimension of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, lead poisoning and occupational health, and, recently, ceramics arts informed by the themes of health and bodily appearance. The museum's collections receive scientific scrutiny with at least five projects in progress, including the extraction of cholera DNA from 19th century specimens as part of a global public health study. Two additional galleries have opened in the past decade, and a third space is under adaptation for new exhibits. The College plans to open a major, permanent exhibit on Civil War medicine in 2013, *Broken Bodies, Suffering Spirits: Injury, Death, and Healing in Civil War Philadelphia*. As the public face of the College, the Mütter Museum provides the focus for introducing new audiences to the College, its collections (including the library), and the medical humanities which embrace all College activities.

[The Francis Clark Wood Institute for the History of Medicine](#) embodies the College's ethos of merging library and museum collections for study, display, and outreach. Originally an endowment-based focus on scholarly research and dialogue, today the Institute fosters medical humanities research based on all college collections. A vibrant [Institute travel grant program](#) attracts researchers from around the world for short-term study: recipients include artists, historians, journalists, scientific researchers, students, and others. The Institute ideology informs College electronic outreach in the form of [PhillyHealthInfo.org](#) and the newest initiative to address public health with an historic perspective, the [History of Vaccines](#) web site.



One of Benjamin Rush's visions was not realized until the 20th century: an apothecary garden. Although chiefly decorative, the Benjamin Rush Medicinal Plant Garden is the College's one outdoor, living exhibit. Upgraded through a grant in 2010, during the growing season the garden with 80-odd

plants in four raised beds has become a destination in its own right, each plant identified by name and application. Enhanced by an audio tour, the garden will soon be enlarged with an accompanying new bed of medicinal plants from other countries, designed and maintained by the Karabots Junior Fellows, a high school program developed by the College. Rooted—so to speak—in the library's botanical medical holdings, the garden speaks to the College's mission and outreach, embracing medical history and humanities.

Robert D. Hicks, Ph.D.

Director, Mütter Museum/Historical Library/Wood Institute for the History of Medicine
William Maul Measey Chair for the History of Medicine
The College of Physicians of Philadelphia

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PROFILE: CHEMICAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The [Chemical Heritage Foundation](#) (CHF) is an independent research library, museum, and center for scholars focused on the history of science, technology, medicine, and industry, with an emphasis on an understanding of the nature of matter and its applications and impacts. CHF was founded in 1982 as the Center for the History of Chemistry and launched as a pilot project of the University of Pennsylvania and the American Chemical Society. The American Institute of Chemical Engineers became the third sponsor in 1984. By 1987 the center was incorporated as a nonprofit organization called the National Foundation for the History of Chemistry. It was renamed the Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) in 1992 to better reflect its interdisciplinary nature

and the widening scope of its activities. In 1995 CHF purchased its current home, the First National Bank building, set in Philadelphia's Independence National Historical Park.

The Donald F. and Mildred Topp Othmer Library of Chemical History, created in 1988 but not open for research until 1997, functions as an independent research library. It houses approximately 150,000 post-1800 print and microform volumes, 6,000 rare books, significant archival materials, scientific instruments and related artifacts, fine art, oral histories, and historical photographs of great value to researchers and our cultural heritage. Together these collections, spanning 6 miles of shelves, form an unrivaled resource for the history of chemistry and related sciences, technologies, and industries.

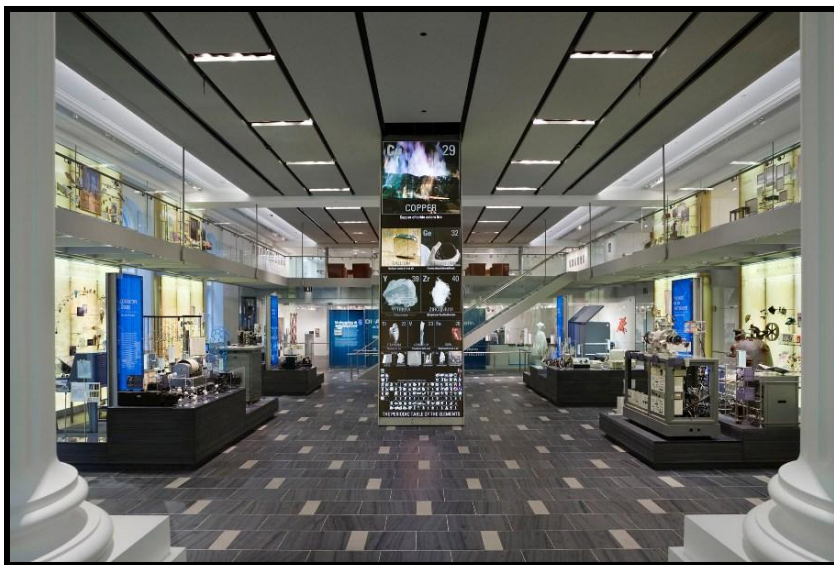


It is open to all users but the collections and services are designed for scholars and experienced researchers who are working on specific topics and have a research strategy in place. The Library hours are Monday–Friday, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM and appointments are strongly encouraged. The Othmer Library's online public access catalog

(OPAC) is available via CHF's website. Apart from basic reference materials, the collections are in closed stacks and will be paged to the Jacobs Reading Room for use as readers request them. All materials in the collections are non-circulating and must be used in the reading room during regular library hours. The Othmer Library offers reference services and interlibrary loan and document delivery services during regular library hours, available on-site or by telephone, mail, or e-mail. Photocopying and photographic reproduction services are also available for a fee.

CHF hosts scholars from all parts of the world through its Visiting Scholar Program. Through the Beckman Center for the History of Chemistry, CHF offers both long-term (9-month) and short-term (2-4 months) fellowships in residence. All fellows have the opportunity to give informal talks on their research at CHF's weekly brown-bag lunch lecture series. Research travel grants are available for scholars who want to visit for terms of four weeks or less. Visiting scholars have access to the Othmer Library of

Chemical History and other CHF resources, including art and archival collections and oral histories, as well as a wealth of area resources. CHF is also an active member of the Philadelphia Area Center for History of Science.



CHF's museum exhibition galleries feature permanent and changing exhibits that explore the fascinating history of chemistry and the role science plays in the modern world. Currently on display is *Making Modernity*, CHF's permanent exhibition, which

shows you how chemistry has touched our lives—frequently in unexpected ways.

Visitors can trace scientific progress in the laboratory, the factory, and their homes and learn how chemistry created and continues to shape the modern world. The changing exhibition gallery features *Elemental Matters: Artists Imagine Chemistry*. Open until December 16, 2011, *Elemental Matters* is an exhibition of dynamic contemporary art by seven artists that demonstrates the relevance of chemistry to our lives.

Despite the prominence of chemistry at CHF, ALHHS members will appreciate the many medical and health science areas that have a natural connection to chemistry. CHF's strong interests in the history of pharmacy, medical recipes, toxicology, the pharmaceutical industry, environmental issues, medical and processed foods, molecular biology, radioactivity, magnetic resonance imaging, biochemistry and biotechnology, among other topics, demonstrate our natural interest in being an active partner with ALHHS and AAHM.

Ronald Brashear

Arnold Thackray Director

Othmer Library of Chemical History

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FEATURE ARTICLE

Go Big Read! – The Inclusion of Health Sciences Students and Historical Collections in a Common Book Reading Program

UW-Madison's Common Book Reading Program, "Go Big Read" (GBR), chooses a book every year for the campus of 40,000+ to read and discuss. This year's choice, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot, chronicles the story of a poor



Rebecca Skloot with Michaela Sullivan-Fowler

African-American woman whose cancerous cells were taken during a diagnostic procedure and eventually became the cell known as HeLa (for Henrietta Lacks). HeLa cells were instrumental in developing the polio vaccine and have been part of thousands of research protocols for over six decades. The book was chosen by UW's Chancellor, Biddy Martin, from a host of titles

reviewed by campus's Go Big Read Steering Committee. The Skloot

book was likely selected because of its complex topics of informed consent, human subject research, body tissue ownership, remuneration for tissue taken under the guise of science, and racial equity in research. Additionally there was interest in the journalistic treatment of a scientific subject, the narrative weave of family history and scientific exploits, and the cross disciplinary nature of many of the subjects; which would engage those in disciplines such as law, ethics, journalism, health sciences, and history. Since being chosen, *The Immortal Life*, published in 2010, has become a *New York Times* bestseller, was mentioned in Oprah's 10 best nonfiction titles, and recently won the Wellcome Trust Book Prize for works that celebrate medicine. Skloot has been a guest speaker at numerous institutions and on countless radio and television shows.

The administration at Ebling Library for the Health Sciences knew that the choice of *The Immortal Life* gave us an unprecedented opportunity play a role in the preexisting curriculum of our health sciences schools (Medicine & Public Health, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Veterinary Medicine). With the help of the School of Medicine & Public

Health (SMPH) we hired History of Science graduate student Lynnette Regouby for 20 hours per week. Our goal - to engage as many health sciences students as possible in a discussion of the book, and to install an exhibit that complemented Skloot's themes. Julie Schneider, Ebling's Director, began the process with the Associate Deans of the four schools through UW's Interprofessional Health Education Committee (IHEC), alerting them to the possibility of creating a time at the beginning of the fall semester when students could discuss the book with informed facilitators. Lynnette and I worked with Associate Deans from the IHEC and other faculty to develop a Discussion Guide with a set of core questions based on three themes; those of Science, Race, and Ethics as they related to *The Immortal Life*. Over the summer, Lynnette scheduled (online!) nearly 900 graduate health science students with 40 faculty members from the four schools, including UW's Department of Medical History & Bioethics who, in the fall, met for one hour sessions and discussed Skloot's book. Concurrently, I became the Health Sciences Go Big Read Project Leader. Ebling colleagues, Allan Barclay and Rebecca Holz, produced a web site that highlighted the work Lynnette and the facilitators were doing. <http://projects.hsl.wisc.edu/gbr/index.html>. We also worked with the W.M. Keck Laboratory for Biological Imaging to show illustrations of the HeLa cell, and uploaded videos related to Skloot's book. At the behest of the campus GBR leader, Sarah McDaniel, I did numerous blog postings on the campus GBR site. We planned an art exhibit for March, 2011 called *Tiny: Art from Microscopes at UW-Madison*, to highlight images similar to those of HeLa in terms of scientific illustration.

Lynnette and I also created an exhibit at Ebling entitled *Informing Consent: Unwitting Subjects in Medicine's Pursuit of Beneficial Knowledge*. In addition to the topics of the history of informed consent, human experimentation and tissue ownership, we also wanted to investigate thematic connections with UW, create a narrative thread between the cases which would provide a framework for the story in a broader societal and cultural context, and show examples of the primary material that Skloot refers to in her book. The primary material included clinical journal articles, textbooks, magazine articles, legal forms, catalogs and photographs. We hoped to include the resources of the University Archives and other libraries on campus- which we were successful in doing.

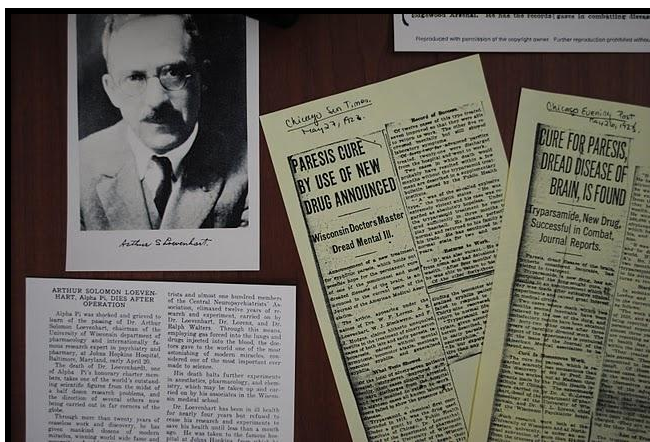
Lynnette and I split up the research, writing, design and installation of the cases. Lynnette did "UW's Cancer Research during the 1950s and Beyond;" "Immortal Skin," which highlights UW Researcher Lynn Allen Hoffmann and her work with stem cell originated skin; and "HeLa in the (1970s) Press" and "Patenting Life," which illustrates



Honoring Henrietta. It was important to contextualize Henrietta in 1950s Baltimore. Using artistic license and original *Ebony* and *Good Housekeeping* ads and articles we hoped to create the world that Henrietta knew.

how HeLa has been sold through catalogs and on the web. I did cases entitled “Honoring Henrietta,” “The Science of HeLa,” “Captive Subjects- Is There Such a Thing as Voluntary?,” “The Art of Healing,” and “Human Subject Experimentation in our Own Backyard.” I personally felt that Skloot painted the race and research component in the 1950s with rather broad strokes (see Michael

Flannery’s review in the Spring, 2010 [Watermark](#) for a thoughtful review of *The Immortal Life*) so in “The Art of Healing” I framed the Skloot narrative in a boarder scientific and cultural context by including a fascinating story on a research protocol done by a black physician with African- American patients in 1950s Boston, and in “Honoring Henrietta,” I shared the story of an African- American porter in Baltimore (where Henrietta was treated) who sent his children to college, one of them coming to UW-Madison in the late 1940s. Neither of those cases could have been done without material from original *Ebony* and *Ladies Home Journal* magazines- neither of which has yet been fully digitized; a lesson not lost on students and faculty who’ve come to think that resources exist solely on the web!



Human Subject Experimentation at UW-Madison (1930s)

Overall, the case content was not without controversy; Lynnette hoped to contextualize the use of human subjects with a nod to the role that animal research plays in the need for us to continue to do human subject experimentation. We decided that representing animal research, on a campus where animal rights groups have a

considerable presence, would railroad the conversation away from the topics that were most germane to Skloot's work. We also learned that some of UW-Madison's most prominent researchers had, in the 1920s-1930s, performed drug trials on psychiatric patients, without informed consent. Hoping to avoid cries of presentism, the accompanying text places the research in historical context and mentions how current Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) strive to avoid such occurrences.

The exhibit opened in September, 2010, and Skloot came to campus and lectured for nearly three days; meeting with many of the students and faculty that had read and discussed *The Immortal Life*. Subsequently, numerous groups (including book clubs and other Madison college classes), students and faculty (from numerous disciplines) have come to the exhibit. We hope to do a representative facsimile of the exhibit on our web pages. "Informing Consent" will be in-house until March 31st, 2011. If you are in the Madison area, come on by and see what one student noted in our guest book; "Great information, way to put the Skloot book in perspective!"

Micaela Sullivan-Fowler

Curator, Ebling Library for the Health Sciences
UW-Madison, Wisconsin

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

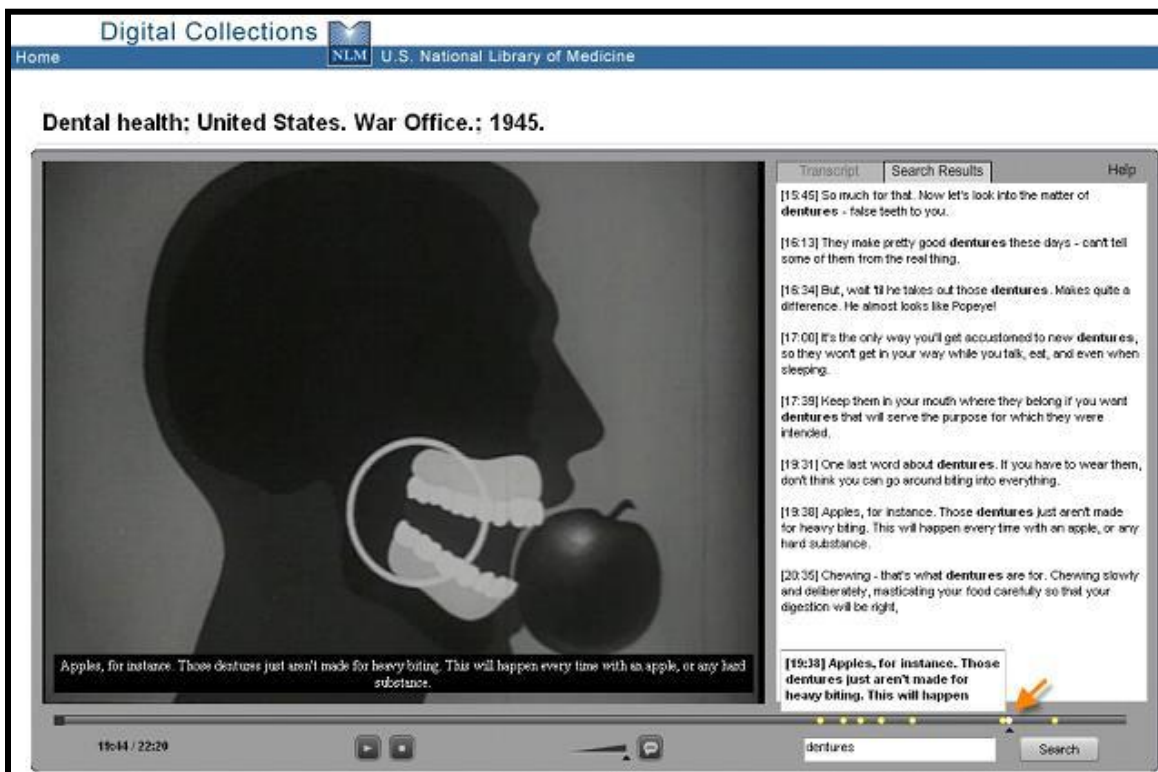
Launch of Digital Collections

NLM has launched a new digital repository, Digital Collections, at <http://collections.nlm.nih.gov>. This new resource is complementary to the PubMed Central digital archive of electronic journal articles (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/>). The repository allows rich searching, browsing and retrieval of monographs and films from NLM's History of Medicine Division. Additional content and other format types will be added over time. Users can perform full-text and keyword searching within each collection or across the entire repository. "The new Digital Collections repository will allow NLM to provide permanent, robust access to an even broader range of biomedical information," said Betsy Humphreys, Deputy Director, NLM.

Accessing the Collections

This first release of Digital Collections includes a newly expanded set of Cholera Online monographs, a portion of which NLM first published online in PDF format in 2007. The version of Cholera Online now available via Digital Collections includes 518 books (dating from 1817 to 1900) about cholera pandemics of that period. More information about the selection of the books and the subject of cholera may be found on the original Cholera Online Web page at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/cholera/>. Each book was scanned into high-quality TIFF images, which underwent optical character recognition to generate corresponding text files. Finally, a JPEG2000 derivative was created for each page for presentation through the integrated book viewer, which includes a Flash-based zooming feature for resizing and rotating a page on demand.

The second collection is a selection of 11 historical films, all created by the US government and in the public domain. The films have been digitized in a variety of video formats, to accommodate a wide range of playback devices, including mobile devices. Digital Collections also includes an integrated, Flash-based video player which allows full-text search of a film's transcript and graphically displays where the searched word or phrase occurs within the timeline of the film.



NLM's "Digital Collections" video player, showing Dental Health, 1945.

Preserving the Collections

Every page of each book and every video is stored as a discrete object in Digital Collections, with an XML “glue” describing each object and relationships between objects. To ensure long-term integrity of these digital files, checksums (number strings which act like mathematical “fingerprints”) are calculated and written into the objects as the objects are ingested into Digital Collections. These checksums will be re-calculated periodically and compared with the original values. Additionally, all ingested files are versioned, so that any changes do not overwrite the original but instead create a new, second file which is stored along with the first.

Technology

Digital Collections was built using several open-source components, with the Fedora Commons Repository Software providing the foundation. The primary browse and search interface has been adapted from the Muradora “front-end” for Fedora, created by Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. The book viewer is a component of Northwestern University’s Book Workflow Interface, also created specifically for use with Fedora. Los Alamos National Laboratory’s djatoka JPEG2000 server handles the images. The video player was adapted from a research project by NLM’s Office of Computer and Communications Systems.

Project

In 2009, NLM began a pilot project to build the repository, develop appropriate workflows for ingesting and managing the content, and provide a core set of end-user services suitable for general public access. Information on the year-long evaluation process leading to the selection of Fedora can be found at:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/digitalrepository/index.html>.

Release of Oral History Web Site

NLM’s History of Medicine Division is pleased to announce the release of a new web interface to its oral history collections as part of its growing electronic texts program. Content includes digital editions of transcripts and any accompanying audio content when feasible. Users can browse content by title, interviewee name, and subject. Full-text searching is available across all sub-collections, across each sub-collection, and within each transcript.

<http://oculus.nlm.nih.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?page=browsecolls>

Currently the site contains 107 interviews in two sub-collections consisting of over 13,000 pages and 80 hours of audio content. These interviews represent the majority of HMD's oral histories conducted by HMD staff during the 1960s when HMD had an active oral history program. HMD still conducts the occasional interview for specific projects, but the majority of our post-1970 holdings consist of interviews that are the product of external researchers or practitioners, or in our capacity as the service point for programs such as that of the Food and Drug Administration History Office.

Some of the topics covered include the development of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine under William Halsted and Howard Kelly, early days of the Food and Drug Administration, the practice of surgery, and medical economics in the 1930s. There is also a series of 13 interviews with homeopathy physicians conducted in 1968. There is a separate sub-collection of interviews with primary care physicians (internists) conducted by Fitzhugh Mullan in the 1990s as part of his research for the book *Big Doctoring in America*.

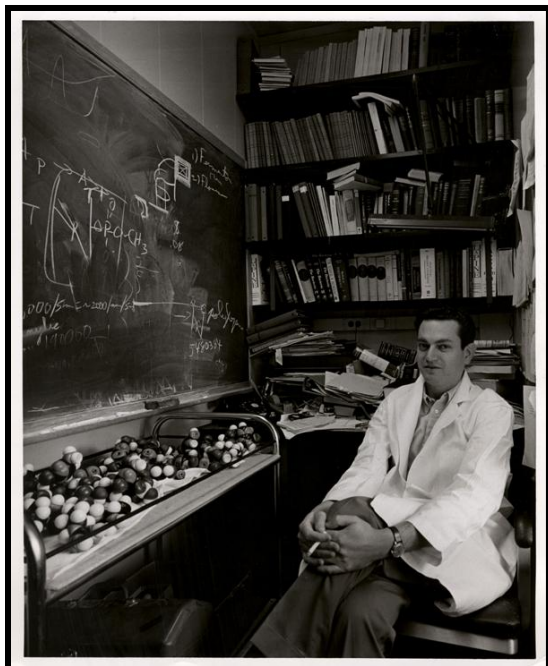
Users can also hear Vivien Thomas speak about working with Alfred Blalock; Lister Hill discussing his family, life as a politician, and health care legislation; and a short recording of Florence Nightingale.

Future content will include interviews conducted as part of the History of the Health Services Research project of the National Information Center on Health Services Research (NICHSR), oral histories from the FDA's active oral history program, and the Medical Library Association.

Transcripts are marked up following the Text Encoding Initiative's (TEI) XML encoding level 1 parameters. Audio content is delivered via a custom Flash player and is downloadable as an MP3. Archival WAV files are available upon request.

Acquisition of Nirenberg, Varmus and DeVries papers

The Archives and Modern Manuscripts Program of the History of Medicine Division's Images and Archives Section is pleased to announce three recent acquisitions.



Dr. Marshall Nirenberg in his office, ca. 1962.

Following the death of Dr. Marshall Nirenberg on January 15, 2010, his widow, Dr. Myrna M. Weissman, made substantial donations to the Library's collection of Marshall Nirenberg's papers, MS C 566. Dr. Nirenberg, a NIH researcher in biochemistry and neurobiology, discovered the genetic code in the 1960s, elucidating how the sequence of nucleotides in DNA determines the composition of proteins. Dr. Nirenberg was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1968 for his work.

Dr. Harold Varmus donated personal papers related to his career as Director of the National Institutes of Health and as President of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in

New York City. While at University of California, San Francisco, in 1989, Dr. Varmus was awarded the Nobel Prize, with Dr. Michael Bishop, for their work on retrovirus oncogenes. Dr. Varmus recently took up the post of Director of the National Cancer Institute at NIH.

Dr. William DeVries donated papers related to his work as a cardiac surgeon in total artificial heart implantation. On December 2, 1982, at the University of Utah, Dr. DeVries implanted the Jarvik artificial heart into dentist Dr. Barney Clark, who lived over three months with the device. Dr. DeVries continued his work through the 1980s, ultimately implanting hearts in four patients at Utah and at the Humana Heart Institute, in Louisville, Kentucky. Most recently Dr. DeVries has been associated with George Washington University and Walter Reed Medical Center, and remains in active practice. In addition to these donations of personal papers, Dr. DeVries donated to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History various artifacts connected to his heart implantation work, which Curator Judy Chelnick received. Dr. DeVries also did an oral history interview, conducted by historian of medicine Dr. Shelley McKellar.

All three collections of papers will be available after they are processed. For further information on access, please contact Archivist John P. Rees of HMD's Archives and Modern Manuscripts Program.

NLM/HMD, NIH Office of History and Centre for Medical History of Exeter University Sponsor Stress Conference

On November 9 and 10, the History of Medicine Division, in cooperation with the Office of History of the National Institutes of Health and the Centre for Medical History, Exeter University (U.K.), hosted a workshop-symposium, "Stress, Trauma, and Adaption in the 20th Century." Dr. David Cantor of HMD and the Office of NIH History and Dr. Edmund Ramsden of Exeter University co-organized the symposium, which featured discussion of pre-circulated papers.

This conference explored the scientific, intellectual, and social influences underlying the emergence of the stress concept—given prominence by Dr. Hans Selye in a series of papers and books starting in the 1930s. Stress had shifting definitions and proved useful in making novel linkages between disciplines such as ecology, physiology, psychology, psychiatry, public health, urban planning, architecture, and a range of social sciences. Stress also proved an organizing concept in understanding such sites as the battlefield, workplace, clinic, hospital and home; and guided the emergence of techniques of stress management in a variety of different socio-cultural and scientific locations. In short, this meeting aimed to explore what happened when stress enters the discourse around modernity.

In all, 14 prepared papers were discussed by 7 commentators as well as an audience of approximately 40. Participants hailed from Israel, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. Cantor and Ramsden are now preparing the papers for publication.

Papers of Blood Bank Pioneer, Surgeon and Educator Dr. Charles Drew Added to the NLM's Profiles in Science Web Site

The National Library of Medicine, in collaboration with the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University, announces the release of an extensive selection from the papers of African-American surgeon Charles R. Drew (1904-1950), who organized and directed America's first large-scale blood bank during the early years of World War II, on the Library's *Profiles in Science* web site (<http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov>).

With this addition, the number of prominent researchers, public health officials and promoters of medical research whose personal and professional records are presented on *Profiles* has grown to 31.

“Dr. Drew’s blood bank work resolved numerous problems in transfusion medicine in that era, helping to make blood supplies readily available for wartime use. But he was also a surgeon who transformed surgical education at Howard, and forged a tradition of excellence,” said Donald A.B. Lindberg, MD, director of the National Library of Medicine.

Dr. Charles Drew was born and raised in Washington, DC, where he attended the best of the city’s African-American schools. Although he was only an average student, his outstanding athletic performance at Dunbar High School earned him a scholarship to Amherst College, where he became a football and track legend. He received his AB in 1926 and, inspired to pursue a medical career, worked two years as an athletic director and biology instructor at Baltimore’s Morgan College to earn money for medical school. At McGill University’s Faculty of Medicine in Montréal, Canada, he became a star student and, once again, a star athlete, winning Canadian championships in several sports. He received his MD and CM (Master of Surgery) in 1933, graduating third in a class of 137. During his internship and residency at the Montreal General Hospital he explored blood transfusion and other fluid replacement treatments for shock.

Several years after joining the surgical faculty at the historically- black Howard University College of Medicine in Washington in 1935, Drew received a Rockefeller Foundation fellowship to train with eminent surgeon Dr. Allen O. Whipple at New York’s Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. He also took this opportunity to earn a doctorate in medical science from Columbia University. At Presbyterian, he worked with Dr. John Scudder on studies relating to treating shock, fluid balance, blood chemistry and preservation and transfusion. His dissertation project was establishing an experimental blood bank at Presbyterian, which opened in August 1939. In June 1940, Drew received his doctorate in Medical Science from Columbia, becoming the first African American to earn the degree there.

“Blood for Britain,” a plasma collection project initiated early in 1940 by New York hospitals and the Red Cross to aid England during World War II, quickly established Drew as a blood bank pioneer. Although others had developed the basic methods for plasma use, Drew played a key role in planning the project and, as medical director, instituted uniform procedures and standards for collecting blood and processing plasma at the participating hospitals. In January 1941, Drew became the assistant director of a pilot program for a national blood banking system, jointly sponsored by the National Research Council and the American Red Cross. The success of the subsequent nationwide project was tarnished by the Armed Forces’ initial exclusion of African-

American donors, and later their segregation of blood donations. Throughout the war, Drew criticized these policies as unscientific and insulting to African-American citizens.

Drew returned to Howard University in April 1941 and soon became chair of the Department of Surgery and Chief of Surgery at Freedmen's Hospital. For the next nine years he devoted himself to training young African-American surgeons who would meet or exceed the most rigorous specialty standards, and would, in turn, continue the tradition of excellence at Howard and beyond.

Drew died on April 1, 1950, in Burlington, North Carolina, from injuries sustained in a car accident while en route to a conference. Despite the prompt and competent care he received from the physicians at a nearby hospital, he was too badly injured to survive. Drew's tragic death generated a persistent myth that he died because he was denied admission to a "whites-only" hospital. His colleagues, including those present at the time, and his family have said that this was untrue. The white doctors tried, but failed, to save Drew's life.

Profiles in Science features digitized correspondence, published articles, notebook excerpts, drafts of reports and photographs from the Charles R. Drew Papers at the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University. Visitors to the site can view, for example, Drew's letters to his family and professional colleagues, drafts of blood banking protocols and correspondence protesting the military's policy of segregating blood donations. The site also includes Drew's never-published 1940 doctoral dissertation, "Banked Blood," and numerous photographs documenting his life and career. Of particular note, Drew's letters to his wife reveal the stresses of carving out a career in segregated American medicine while also trying to fulfill the roles of husband and father.

Jeffrey S. Reznick

Deputy Chief, History of Medicine Division
National Library of Medicine

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NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME LIBRARY

Wellcome Library Guides and Video Tutorials

If you're working from home, figuring out where to start with the Wellcome Library's collections can be a bit daunting. Getting help and getting started just got easier with the recent launch of a new section of our website: [Guides and Video Tutorials](#). You can link directly to it from the popular links on our [homepage](#).

This section features guidance on searching the Wellcome Library catalogues, as well as finding introductory information on the history of medicine, medical humanities and social science, and current health and biomedicine. You'll find:

- guides to help you get started researching a broad topic;
- workshop materials, such as database guides, resource lists and presentation slides;
- links to subject-relevant journals and databases;
- short video tutorials to show you how to make the most of the Library catalogue, Archives and Manuscripts catalogue, and Wellcome Images.

More topic-specific guides and video tutorials are in production over the next few months. At present we have three video tutorials on offer: [Requesting materials from closed stores](#); [Searching Wellcome Images](#); and [Browsing 17th and 18th Century Medical Recipe Manuscripts](#) in the Archives and Manuscripts catalogue.

This section is still a work in progress – so look out for more tutorials in the near future!

New Online Photography Service

The Wellcome Library has recently made ordering new photography from our wonderful collections a lot easier with our new [online photography ordering service](#).



We've made it easy for you to simply make your selections from our [catalogue](#) whenever you see the "request new photography" button.

As well as making the process simpler for you, our staff are also benefitting from clear catalogue information and no more struggles with handwriting on forms.



And don't forget – you can already download many images immediately and for free from our excellent photographic library [Wellcome Images](#).

Papers of Alice Stewart Available for Consultation



[Image credit: [The Right Livelihood Award](#), accessed January 30, 2011]

The Wellcome Library is delighted to announce that the papers of Alice Stewart (1906-2002) have been catalogued and are now available for research.

A physician, epidemiologist and campaigner, Stewart is best known for her research into the effects of radiation on health. Her pioneering study of x-rays as a cause of childhood cancer caused controversy, but her findings were eventually accepted worldwide and the use of medical x-rays during pregnancy and early childhood was curtailed as a result.

Throughout her eighties and well into her nineties Stewart remained active in her research into the effects of low-dose radiation, notably in her involvement in studies of radiation-induced illness among workers at the Hanford plutonium production plant, Washington, USA. Stewart also travelled all over the world to speak at conferences, at hearings and inquiries on the implications of her work for environmental issues and occupational hazards, and in legal cases for compensation.

This is an important and wide-ranging collection, and a major addition to our holdings concerning radiation, among many other topics.

The catalogue for these papers can be viewed by searching for the reference PP/AMS in the reference field of the search interface of the Wellcome Library's Archives and Manuscripts online catalogue (<http://archives.wellcome.ac.uk>).

All of the papers are available subject to the usual conditions of access to Archives and Manuscripts material, after the completion of a Reader's Undertaking.

Wellcome Witness Seminars Material Now Available

The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at University College London has for many years been associated with a noted series of seminars held under the title of "Wellcome Witnesses to Twentieth Century Medicine." At each seminar, significant figures in twentieth-century medicine discuss specific discoveries or events in recent medical history. The topics covered are some of the most interesting and sometimes contentious subjects in 20th century medicine and tackle issues that will be of wide interest to the general public as well as medical historians. Titles of seminars, to name but a few, include: *Maternal Care*; *Genetic Testing*; *Innovation in Pain Management*; *Environmental Toxicology* and the latest volume, number 40, *The Medicalization of Cannabis*.

The transcripts for the large majority of seminars were published, and all 40 published volumes in the series are freely available to read and download from the [website](#) of The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL (copies of all the published

volumes are also held by the Wellcome Library).

Material on the seminars is held by the Wellcome Library, but until recently only documentation relating to the first two published volumes has been made available. Now however, the material associated with all 40 published volumes as well as the unpublished seminars have been catalogued and the [full catalogue](#) can be searched via the Wellcome Library [online catalogue](#) for Archives and Manuscripts, using the reference GC/253. The names of the individuals associated with the seminar are all included within the catalogue and so researchers can choose to search using the name of a person of interest or by subject.

Some of the foremost scientists and healthcare professionals of the modern age have been involved in the Witness Seminars and these newly released papers should form a valuable contribution to the documentary legacy of those individuals as well as the histories of the subjects covered.

The Sounds of One & Other



[Image credit: [Sky Arts](#), accessed January 31, 2011]

Oral testimonies from those involved in a major UK public artwork have been made available through the Wellcome Library's website.

One & Other, the brainchild of the acclaimed sculptor Anthony Gormley, was commissioned by the Mayor of London and between 6th July and 14th October 2009, occupied the empty Fourth Plinth, Trafalgar Square, London. Running 24/7, over the course of 100 days and nights, participants occupied the plinth in one hour time slots. In total there were 2,400 participants who were quickly dubbed “plinthers.” Footage of all the plinthers was streamed live over the internet by the Sky Arts channel with further coverage in traditional media as well as out in the blogosphere. After the project closed, the [project website](#) with all the footage was archived by the British Library.

The involvement of Wellcome stemmed from the desire to capture the thoughts and feelings of the participants in relation to medical humanities and wellbeing, in the broadest sense of the term, before they ascended to the Plinth. 15 to 30 minutes of audio was captured from each plinth by a team of interviewers led by the project manager, [Verusca Calabria](#). The audio was captured on state-of-the-art solid state audio recorders straight to .wav audio files.

All the plinthers agreed to making their audio widely available under the terms of a [Creative Commons licence](#) (which permits the re-use and re-mixing of the audio for non-commercial purposes) and the race has been on to make the material available as soon as possible. Over the course of the last few months, the master audio files have been transcoded to .mp3 audio files for ease of access and they are now audible online via the Wellcome Library’s [Archives and Manuscripts catalogue](#).

The public can either search for a particular plinth’s name to go direct to that record (using either the surname alone, or the full name in the order *Last Name, First Name*), or go to the [collection level record](#) and click on “see this in context” to display the collection as a browsable “[tree](#).” There is also a third level of access via the [Wellcome Collection’s website](#), where the focus is placed upon a sub-group of 20 plinthers who were considered of particular interest to the Wellcome Trust as they were closer to the “coal-face” of biomedicine (for example, one participant, Anjuli Pandavar, discusses gender reassignment treatment). This group was selected by the Wellcome Trust for follow-up interviews in 2010. Each of these plinthers is represented by a photograph and edited highlights of their pre- and post-plinth interviews. For further discovery, these records link through to the [Library catalogue](#) where the entire pre- and post-plinth interviews can be heard, as well as downloaded. There are also transcriptions of the full interviews available.

For regular updates on the work of the Wellcome Library, see our Blog:

<http://wellcomelibrary.blogspot.com>

Ross MacFarlane

Research Officer

Wellcome Library

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MEMBER PROFILES

Patricia Gallagher



Member of ALHHS: I believe I joined in 1994. I've been Secretary-Treasurer, a Member of the Board, Bylaws Chair, Program Chair, and I helped write the initial Procedure Manual. I've also done some book reviews!

Home town: New York City. Born and bred.

Current employer and position: New York Academy of Medicine Library, Librarian

Education:

- MLS from Queens College, CUNY
- MA from Hunter College, CUNY

Professional interests: [NOAH: New York Online Access to Health](#); evidence-based healthcare; the history of women in medicine and nursing; the history of medical/nursing women in film.

Other facts, interests or hobbies: Old movies (watching, collecting and [blogging](#)), knitting, theatre, movies (current ones too), travel (especially to the UK).

Rachel Ingold

Member of ALHHS since: September 2010

Home town: Monroe, NC. Have lived in Durham, NC, since 2001

Current employer and position: Curator, History of Medicine Collections, Duke Medical Center Library & Archives, Durham, NC

Education:

- BA in Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1996
- BA in Women's Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1996
- MA in Women's Studies from George Washington University, 2001
- MLS from North Carolina Central University, 2009

Professional interests: women's health; book conservation; using special collections for instruction and outreach.

Other facts, interests or hobbies: Gardening, bowling (I recently rejoined a league), travelling, and spending time with family and friends.

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COLLECTIONS

Eleanor K. Grimm Archival Finding Aid Now Available Online

New items are continuously being added to the History and Archives page of the American College of Surgeons: www.facs.org/archives. The most recent addition is the archival finding aid for the 26 volume series of notebooks on the history of the ACS, created by Eleanor K. Grimm. Miss Grimm was the special assistant to ACS founder Franklin Martin from 1913 until his death in 1935. From 1935 until her retirement from

the College in 1951, she served as secretary to the Board of Regents, editor of publications, and many other positions which required 12 people to replace her after her retirement!

Arranged and described chronologically, volume I through XXVI, and largely in Miss Grimm's own words, the finding aid will enable the viewer to see in much greater depth what is included in this vast repository of information on the College, surgery and medicine, and society at large for the first half of the 20th century. The 59-page index Miss Grimm created to navigate her 26 volume notebooks has been accessible and searchable in the Digital Collections samples on the Archives home page since October 2008.

Shortly after the sample of Miss Grimm's work appeared on the ACS website in 2008, her great nephew, Mr. Randy Schallau approached the ACS Archives indicating that he had some of her scrapbooks and correspondence and asked if we were interested in them. Along with a collection of photos, Mr. Schallau graciously donated three 3-ring binders of Miss Grimm's scrapbooks, most likely compiled at her retirement. Included are files of her correspondence, alphabetically arranged by correspondent, with all the initial Regents and many other founders of the College, as well as College leaders at the time congratulating her on her retirement in 1951. Besides providing many more insights into the early workings of the College in its first 40 years of existence and some of the personalities of its early leaders, the scrapbooks reflect much more about this remarkable woman.

Two years after Mr. Schallau donated the initial gift, he again approached the Archives with more materials of Miss Grimm's. Although some were quite badly damaged in a flooded basement, the nine travel scrapbooks nevertheless yield much more about Miss Grimm's life. She traveled throughout the world after her retirement, often visiting surgeons and other individuals she encountered in her 40 year career with the College. For each excursion, she carried with her a letter from the current Executive Director of the College (Paul R. Hawley, MD, 1950-1961; John Paul North, MD, FACS, 1961-1969; H. Rollins Hanlon, MD, FACS, 1969-1986), introducing her as representing the American College of Surgeons.

These scrapbooks are organized in a way that is strikingly similar to the organization of the twenty-six volume set of History Notebooks, demonstrating the unique style of Miss Grimm. They illuminate the life of a woman who was essentially the collaborator of

Franklin Martin, founder of the American College of Surgeons, and shed light on what it was like to be an early twentieth century career woman. Those interested in pursuing the life of this remarkable woman will find in these scrapbooks ample material for a biography of Eleanor K. Grimm.

The Digital Collections highlight four categories of historic records from the College's archives: The Clinical Congress Daily News, 1911-1979; the Board of Regents photos, 1920-2006; the 1927 sample volume of the Martin Memoirs, and sample Volume 4 and index of the 26-volume set of the Eleanor Grimm Notebooks. Many FAQs can be answered by checking out these rich resources.

The Archives page also has a list of all Honorary Fellows since the first Clinical Congresses, all existing presidential addresses ever presented at annual Clinical Congresses, all Clinical Congress dates and locations, Distinguished Service Award recipients, monthly Highlights from the Archives featuring notable individuals or documents found in the archives, a brief history of the College and more.

The ACS will also be hosting the exhibit *Opening Doors: Contemporary African American Academic Surgeons* from June 13-Aug 11, 2011.

After viewing the Digital Collections, please return to the History and Archives page to complete a 1-minute web survey, to give feedback. Contact Susan Rishworth, Archivist, at srishworth@facs.org for more information.

Susan Rishworth, MLS, MA

Archivist, American College of Surgeons

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EXHIBITIONS

Civil Practice to Civil War: The Medical College of the State of South Carolina, 1861-1865

The Waring Historical Library and the Medical University of South Carolina University Archives announce the opening of a new web exhibit, located at <http://waring.library.musc.edu/exhibits/civilwar/>.

The Medical College of the State of South Carolina (MCSSC), as it was known from 1832 until 1952, suspended classes after the March 1861 graduation, just three months after South Carolina seceded from the Union and a month before shots upon Fort Sumter marked the official commencement of hostilities between North and South. Almost immediately, many of the College's faculty, students, and alumni joined the Confederate military and the College was left dormant for five long years. Even while the College was on hiatus, its students, alumni, and faculty were getting an entirely new education in the field hospitals and on the battlefields. The exhibit tells the stories of but a few of the hundreds of MCSSC's alumni, faculty and students who took their medical bags to war.

For more information about the web exhibit, please contact Brooke Fox, University Archivist at foxeb@musc.edu.

E. Brooke Fox, MLIS, CA

University Archivist

Medical University of South Carolina

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*The Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at
Shreveport: A Chronological History*

LSUHSC-S Chronological History (www.lsuhschistory.org) is a website created by Medical Library faculty members. Beginning in 1869, this extensive website graphically documents more than 140 years of significant events in the history of the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport.

Primary source materials used in the creation of this website were drawn primarily from the holdings of the Medical Library Archives and include correspondence, photographs, slides, newspaper articles, institutional publications, audio and videotapes, as well as three dimensional artifacts. Paper documents were scanned to create digital surrogates, while audiovisual materials were transferred from analog to digital format.

The decade-by-decade chronology is the foundation of the website. Biographies of important individuals are in the “People” section; names of administrators throughout the years and short departmental histories can be found in the “Departments” section; while photographs and details about campus buildings are included in the “Buildings” section.



Specific resources used in the website include the Gordon W. Maxcy Photograph Collection; several thousand newspaper clippings dating from the early 1960s; taped oral history interviews with pioneering figures such as Dr. Joe Holoubek, Dr. Warren Grafton, Dr. David DeSha,

Reggie Graves, and Dr. Charles Black; and videos of memorable events including Dr. Edgar Hull's last Faculty Council Meeting as Dean and the School of Medicine groundbreaking. More than 100 cubic feet of archival resources were searched to provide a fascinating glimpse into our past. Most of the important events in our history are already documented, but the website is an evolving resource that will be continually updated with additional text and digitized images. Partial funding for the website creation has been received from the LSU Health Sciences Foundation and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, South Central Region.

For more information, please contact Dee Jones at djone4@lsuhsc.edu or 318-675-5458.

Dee Jones, MLS, AHIP

Head of Cataloging Section
LSU Health Sciences Center
Medical Library

This was previously published in volume 22 Issue 1 (Fall 2010) of Incipit and reprinted with permission – ed.

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EVENTS

Annual Meeting: Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science

The following are the titles for the two to four paper sessions to be presented March 4-5, 2011 at the 13th annual meeting of the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, TN. Complete information on this program and registration material can be found at:

http://www.sahms.net/HTML/2011_conference.htm

Apothecaries & Pharmacy; Disease Models and Classification; Industrial and Workplace Medicine; Medical Education Before World War II; Medicine in Literature; Nursing in the South; Medical Education in the Post-World War II Era; Mothers and Motherhood; Nineteenth-Century Mental Illness; Nursing & Midwifery; Medicine at the Margins: The Body as Site of Transnational Identity Construction; Public Health in International Perspective; Therapeutics; Ancient and Medieval Medicine; Race and Medicine; Famous Names in Health History; Globalization of Health Care; Civil War Medicine; Military Medicine; Nineteenth-Century Medicine.

Please share this material with your history of medicine colleagues and direct any questions about this meeting to John Erlen at erlen@pitt.edu.

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Western Archives Institute

The 25th annual Western Archives Institute will be held at the University of California, Berkeley, in Berkeley, California, July 10 – 22, 2011. The Western Archives Institute is an intensive, two-week program that provides integrated instruction in basic archival practices to individuals with a variety of backgrounds, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills, but who have little or no previous archives education; those who have expanding responsibility for archival materials; those who are practicing archivists but have not received formal instruction; and those who demonstrate a commitment to an archival career.

The Institute also features site visits to historical records repositories and a diverse curriculum that includes history and development of the profession, theory and terminology, records management, appraisal, arrangement, description, manuscripts acquisition, archives and the law, photographs, preservation administration, reference and access, outreach programs, and managing archival programs and institutions.

Dr. David Gracy has graciously agreed to serve as Principal Faculty Member for the 2011 Institute. Gracy is the Governor Bill Daniel Professor in Archival Enterprise, University of Texas at Austin School of Information. Dr. Gracy worked in the Texas State Archives and University of Texas Archives before becoming Archivist, Southern Labor Archives, Georgia State University, and then Director, Texas State Archives. He is a former President of both the Society of American Archivists and the Academy of Certified Archivists, and a Fellow of the Texas State Historical Association. Dr. Gracy's research interests include the history of archival enterprise, of archives and libraries in Texas, and of the information domain. He is the author of *Archives and Manuscripts: Arrangement and Description*; *The State Library and Archives of Texas: A History, 1835-1962*; and *Moses Austin: His Life*. This will be the fifth time Gracy has served as Principal Faculty Member of the Western Archives Institute.

Tuition for the Institute is \$700 and includes a selection of archival publications. Other non-negotiable fees, including program transportation, facility fees, opening dinner, and luncheon at the closing program will be available in early February. Housing and meal plans are available at additional cost.

The application deadline for the 2011 Western Archives Institute is **April 1, 2011**. For additional program information, see

<http://www.calarchivists.org/Default.aspx?pageId=704191>, or contact:

Administrator

Western Archives Institute

1020 O Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Telephone: 916/653-7715

Fax: 916/653-7134

E-mail:

ArchivesWeb@sos.ca.gov

The Western Archives Institute is co-sponsored by the Society of California Archivists and the California State Archives.

The application package is available on the California State Archives web site at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/wai/>, and on the Society of California Archivists web site at <http://www.calarchivists.org/Default.aspx?pageId=704191>.

Ellen Jarosz

Associate Administrator

Western Archives Institute

Special Collections and University Archives Librarian

Library and Information Access

San Diego State University

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Dittrick Medical History Center: Events

February 14

Science Café Cleveland: Tony Tizzano and Jim Edmonson will be doing a presentation on the history of contraception. Morning broadcast on WCPN; evening event at Great Lakes Brewing Company, W.25th St. Science Café Cleveland provides an informal public forum for the open discussion of current science issues. It is jointly sponsored by the Case chapter of Sigma Xi (<http://www.case.edu/affil/sigmaxi/>) and WCPN ideastream (<http://www.wcpn.org/index.php/WCPN/index/>).

March 1

Joanna Ebenstein (Morbidity Anatomy): *Anatomical Venuses, Slashed Beauties, and Three Fetuses Dancing a Jig: An Illustrated Journey into the Curious World of the Medical Museums*. Lecture at 6:00 PM in the Powell Room, followed at 7:00 PM by a reception in the Dittrick Museum.

April 9

Obscura Day at the Dittrick. 7:00 PM. Details forthcoming on <http://atlasobscura.com/>. See here for details about Obscura Day 2010: <http://atlasobscura.com/obscura-day>

April 15

Cleveland Medical Library Association annual meeting and lecture. Bert Hansen (CUNY) will speak on the Wonders of Nature and Miracles of Medicine: Popularizing Science in LIFE Magazine, 1936-1972. Lecture at 6:00 PM in the Ford Auditorium, followed by a reception at 7:00 PM in the Powell Room.

For details of all events, please visit the Dittrick [website](#):

James M. Edmonson, Ph.D.

Chief Curator

Dittrick Medical History Center

Case Western Reserve University

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FELLOWSHIPS

ACOG Fellowship in the History of American Obstetrics and Gynecology

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists sponsors one \$5,000.00 fellowship in the History of American Obstetrics and Gynecology each year. ACOG Junior Fellows and Fellows are encouraged to apply. The recipient of the fellowship spends one month in the Washington DC area working full-time to complete his or her specific historical research project. Although the fellowship will be based in the ACOG History Library, the fellow is encouraged to use other national, historical, and medical collections in the Washington DC area. The results of this research must be disseminated through either publication or presentation at a professional meeting.

Applications and further information about the fellowship can be obtained by contacting:

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

Ms. Debra Scarborough, History Librarian/Archivist

P.O. Box 96920

Washington, DC 20024-6920

(202) 863-2578

(202) 863-5401 (fax)

dscarborough@acog.org

The application form and additional information is also posted on the ACOG website <http://www.acog.org> under "Information" - "History Library/Archives." The direct ULR is http://www.acog.org/departments/dept_notice.cfm?recno=21&bulletin=4582.

Applications must be received by March 15, 2011. Selection will be made and the recipient notified as soon as possible after the deadline so that the fellowship may begin as early as late Spring 2011.

Debra Scarborough, MLS AHIP

History Librarian & Archivist

American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists

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CHFM Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine

The Center for the History of Family Medicine (CHFM) is proud to announce its new Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine. Beginning in 2011, the Center will sponsor one \$1,500 Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine annually. Interested family physicians, other health professionals, historians, scholars, educators, scientists and others are invited to apply.

The successful applicant will be awarded a fellowship grant in an amount of up to \$1,500 to support travel, lodging and incidental expenses relating to conducting research on a project of their choosing dealing with any aspect of the history of General Practice, Family Practice, or Family Medicine in the United States. The fellowship will be awarded directly to the individual applicant and not to the institution where he or she may be employed.

The deadline for application is March 31, 2011. All applications will be reviewed in April, with the Fellowship award announced by May 31, 2011.

Complete application [forms and instructions](#) are available online through the Center's website at the following link:

<http://www.aafpfoundation.org/online/foundation/home/programs/center-history/fellowship.html>

For more information on the Center and its holdings, please visit the Center's website at www.aafpfoundation.org/chfm or contact:

Don Ivey, MPA

Manager

Center for the History of Family Medicine

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Ferenc Gyorgyey Research Travel Award

The Historical Library of the Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library at Yale University is pleased to announce its fourth annual Ferenc Gyorgyey Research Travel Award for use of the Historical Library.

The Medical Historical Library, located in New Haven, Connecticut, holds one of the country's largest collections of rare medical books, journals, prints, photographs, and pamphlets. Special strengths are the works of Hippocrates, Galen, Vesalius, Boyle, Harvey, Culpeper, Haller, Priestley, and S. Weir Mitchell, and works on anesthesia, and smallpox inoculation and vaccination. The Library owns over fifty medieval and renaissance manuscripts, Arabic and Persian manuscripts, and over 300 medical incunabula. The notable Clements C. Fry Collection of Prints and Drawings has over 2,500 fine prints, drawings, and posters from the 15th century to the present on medical subjects.

The 2011-2012 travel grant is available to historians, medical practitioners, and other researchers who wish to use the collections of the [Medical Historical Library](#). There is a single award of up to \$1,500 for one week of research during the academic fiscal year July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012. Funds may be used for transportation, housing, food, and photographic reproductions. The award is limited to residents of the United States and Canada.

Please note: The Medical Historical Library is currently undergoing a construction project that has required a large portion of the 19th century collection to be moved off-site for temporary storage. These materials are not available for research for the duration of this travel award. If your research requires 19th century materials please check the [Notice of Collection Availability](#).

Applicants should send a curriculum vitae and a description of the project including the relevance of the collections of the Historical Library to the project, and two references attesting to the particular project. Preference will be given to applicants beyond commuting distance to the Historical Library. This award is for use of Medical Historical special collections and is not intended for primary use of special collections in other libraries at Yale. An application form can be found on our website <http://www.med.yale.edu/library/historical/about/grant.html>. Applications are due by March 18, 2011. They will be considered by a committee and the candidates will be informed by May 13, 2011.

Applications and requests for further information should be sent to:

Janene Batten

Interim Director for Medical Historical Library
Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library
Yale University
P.O. Box 208014
New Haven, CT 06520-8014
Telephone: 203- 785-4354
Fax: 203-785-5636
E-mail: historical.library@yale.edu

Additional information about the Library and its collections may be found at <http://www.med.yale.edu/library/historical/>

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New York Academy of Medicine History of Medicine Fellowships

Applications are currently being accepted for the New York Academy of Medicine's two history of medicine fellowships for 2011-2012: the Paul Klemperer Fellowship in the History of Medicine and the Audrey and William H. Helfand Fellowship in the History of Medicine and Public Health. For those who were familiar with the Helfand Fellowship in the past, please note that its focus has changed and read the description and application materials carefully.

Information about both fellowships can be found on the Now Accepting Applications page of the NYAM website: <http://www.nyam.org/grants/>.

Questions about the fellowships and the application process may be directed to me at 212-822-7313 or ashaner@nyam.org. Contact information also appears on the applications.

Arlene Shaner

Assistant Curator and Reference Librarian for Historical Collections
The New York Academy of Medicine

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Truman G. Blocker, Jr. History of Medicine Fellowship

The Moody Medical Library of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston is pleased to offer the Truman G. Blocker, Jr. Fellowship to support research related to the history of medicine conducted at the Moody Medical Library.

The Truman G. Blocker, Jr. Fellowship will provide between \$2,000 and \$4,000 per year to support travel, lodging and incidental expenses for the period between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011. Upon completion the recipient will deliver a paper at the University of Texas Medical Branch outlining the research, provide an expense report and a copy of the final research product. The University of Texas Medical Branch also reserves the right to post excerpts from the work, a photograph and biographical material of the Fellow on our website <http://www.utmb.edu/>.

The fellowship proposal must demonstrate that the Truman G. Blocker, Jr. History of Medicine Collections contain resources central to the proposed topic. These collections consist of over 18,000 titles and 10,000 pamphlets and reprints documenting the development of Western medicine and allied sciences. The Moody Medical Library's holdings of books printed prior to 1501 place it among the top medical sciences libraries in the United States. Collection strengths include fundamental and secondary works in anatomy and surgery, anesthesiology, immunology, and occupational medicine. The Titus Harris Collection of the History of Psychiatry maintains over 4,500 volumes and is considered one of the most comprehensive accumulations of works on the subject. The archival collections housed at the Moody Medical Library are among the largest and most significant in the history of the biomedical sciences in the southern United States. These collections provide records of state and national organizations and professional societies in medicine and related fields, in addition to the private and professional papers

of University of Texas Medical Branch faculty, staff, students and alumni. An inclusive list of these archives may be found at the Texas Archival Resources Online website:

<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/index.html>

While preference will be given to applicants who live beyond commuting distance of Galveston, all are encouraged to apply, including graduate students. Applicants should submit a fellowship proposal outlining the subject and objectives of the research project and historical materials to be used, (not to exceed 2 pages), a project budget including travel, lodging and research expenses, curriculum vitae and two letters of recommendation by April 1st, 2011. Award decisions will be made by May 1st, 2011. Applications should be mailed to:

Robert O. Marlin IV

Archivist, Truman G. Blocker, Jr. History of Medicine Collections
Moody Medical Library
University of Texas Medical Branch
301 University Blvd.
Galveston, TX 77555-1035

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MISCELLANEA

ALHHS Publications Award: Call for Nominations

The ALHHS Publication Award, established in 1992, is presented to the author(s) of a printed publication related to the history of the health care sciences, or works on the bibliography, librarianship and/or curatorship of historical collections in the health care sciences, published in academic, trade or private publishers within the four years prior to presentation of the award. Past award recipients have been:

- Michael Flannery (2006)
- Christopher Hoolihan (2002)
- Joan Klein and Jodi Koste (1998)
- Jeremy Norman (1994)

Please present nominations for awards in two categories: books and journal articles.

At least one author of the publication must be a current member of ALHHS, and the work must have been published in the years 2007, 2008, 2009 or 2010.

Please send three copies of the work to Michael North, Chair of the ALHHS Publication Awards, History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894. The deadline for submission will be February 28, 2011. Legible photocopies or PDFs of articles are acceptable. Please include a cover letter giving the item's complete citation (including all authors, publisher, and publication date). Authors may nominate their own works.

The winners of the awards will be announced at the ALHHS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, April 28, 2011. The Committee also hopes to name honorable mentions in each category in addition to the winners.

The award does not consist of cash, but greater glory among your ALHHS colleagues. Please do not hesitate to contact the committee if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks,

Michael North, Chair, National Library of Medicine, northm@mail.nih.gov

Stephen Novak, Columbia University Health Sciences Library, sen13@columbia.edu

Tim Pennycuff, UAB Archives, University of Alabama at Birmingham, tpenny@uab.edu

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A History of Cancer Care at the University of Virginia, 1901-2011: Book, Website, and DVD

Three years ago, a brain trust of stellar physicians, researchers, and nurses came together in acknowledgement of the need for a recorded history of cancer care at the University of Virginia. We are pleased to announce the completion of *A History of Cancer Care at the University of Virginia, 1901-2011*, a book tracing the evolution of UVA's program from its inception to the advent of the Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center. This book provides vast insight into the teamwork, dedication, collegiality, and skill--as well as luck--which was necessary for the Cancer Center to exist today. Twenty-

five oral history interviews are included in the double DVD set with the book, which can also be seen on the complementary website <http://blog.hsl.virginia.edu/uvacancer>.

The book was written by Henry K. Sharp, Ph.D. and Morton C. Wilhelm, M.D. the Joseph Helms Farrow Professor Emeritus in Surgical Oncology, University of Virginia School of Medicine. The volume has a two-part Conclusion by George A. Beller, M.D., the Ruth C. Heed Professor of Cardiology, Cardiovascular Division, UVa Health System and Peyton T. Taylor, Jr., M.S., M.D., the Richard N. and Louise R. Crockett Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Virginia School of Medicine, founding director of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology at UVa, and the Associate Medical Director of the University of Virginia Cancer Center.

Historical Collections staff members contributed many hours actively involved in every aspect of the UVa History of Cancer Care Project since its inception, including doing research in the archives, editing, finding photos, creating the index and bibliography, and proofreading.

Two Medical Center Hour presentations in early February will highlight the opening of the Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center and the history which led us here:

A History of Cancer Care at the University of Virginia, 1901-2011.

Co-presented with the History of the Health Sciences Lecture Series, February 2, 12:30-1:30 in the Jordan Conference Center Auditorium. The speakers are **M.C. Wilhelm**, M.D. Joseph Helms Farrow Professor Emeritus in Surgical Oncology, University of Virginia School of Medicine and **Michael J. Weber**, Ph.D. Director, University of Virginia Cancer Center. There will also be a book signing with authors Henry K. Sharp and M.C. Wilhelm. This lecture will be available for viewing approximately two weeks after the event at www.youtube.com/user/UVAMCH.

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Healing by Design: The Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center

Co-presented with the Center for Design and Health, UVA School of Architecture February 9, 12:30-1:30 in the Jordan Conference Center Auditorium. The speakers will be: **Peyton T. Taylor, Jr.**, M.S., M.D. Richard N. and Louise R. Crockett Professor,

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Virginia School of Medicine; founding director of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology, University of Virginia; and Associate Medical Director, University of Virginia Cancer Center; **Richard Clarke**, AIA Principal, Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects LLP, New York NY; and **Roger Courtenay**, FASLA, LEED AP Principal/Vice President, Design + Planning, AECOM, Alexandria, VA. There will also be a book signing with authors Henry K. Sharp and M.C. Wilhelm. This lecture will be available for viewing approximately two weeks after the event at www.youtube.com/user/UVAMCH.

The individuals who agreed to be interviewed and whose stories and memories were incredibly valuable to the historical narrative of cancer care at UVA are: Robert W. Cantrell, M.D.; David Cattell-Gordon, M.S.W.; Diane D. Cole, M.P.H.; Milton T. Edgerton, M.D.; Jay Y. Gillenwater, M.D.; Gerald Goldstein, M.D.; Kenneth E. Greer, M.D.; Sharon L. Hostler, M.D.; John A. Jane, Sr., M.D. Ph.D.; Theodore E. Keats, M.D.; Robert E. McLaughlin, M.D.; James M. Lerner, M.D.; Stacey E. Mills, M.D.; Daniel N. Mohler, M.D.; Mary Jane Morris, R.N.; Thomas J. O'Leary, Ph.D.; J. Thomas Parsons, Ph.D.; Craig L. Slingluff, M.D.; Bradley M. Rodgers, M.D.; Peyton T. Taylor, Jr., M.D.; Agathe van der Erve, R.N.; Michael J. Weber, Ph.D.; Munsey S. Wheby, M.D.; Morton C. Wilhelm, M.D.; and Michael E. Williams, M.D. We also wish to thank John B. Hanks, M.D.; R. Scott Jones, M.D.; and David E. Smith, M.D. for their contributions.

The book (200 pages, illustrated, includes 2 DVDs, hardcover, \$35) may be purchased from the UVA Bookshop (http://uvabookstores.com/shop_tradebooks.asp), the UVA Medical Alumni Office (434-924-1734 or 866-315-0947), or the Positive Image Boutique in the ECCCC.

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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Massachusetts General Hospital's Bicentennial: 2011

In the summer of 1810, notable Boston physicians John Collins Warren and James Jackson, at the behest of Boston's almshouse chaplain John Bartlett, wrote and

distributed a "circular letter," asking the support of prominent and wealthy Bostonians for the establishment a hospital for the growing city. On February 25, 1811 a charter was granted by the Massachusetts State Legislature for the establishment of the Massachusetts General Hospital. In commemoration, MGH is planning many events, a few of which are highlighted below.

Many departments are working on projects ranging from books to websites, showcasing their development and progress over the decades. An MGH History Channel is planned to broadcast in-house television programs; a book-length history of MGH's obstetrics and gynecology department is in draft form; a history of pathology at MGH is in the works.

Scheduled for publication this Spring is the latest history of MGH, *Something in the Ether, The Bicentennial History of Massachusetts General Hospital, 1811-2011* (Beverly, Mass.: Memoirs Unlimited), by Webster Bull. A photographic history of MGH nursing, which carries the working title of *Nursing at 200*, will be released in time for Nurse Recognition Week in May. The Development Office is planning a "Donor Wall" highlighting individuals who have given generously over the past 200 years, while the Multicultural Affairs Office is planning a timeline to highlight "firsts" among African-American and Hispanic physicians and scientists who have trained at or are on staff at MGH.

Scheduled to open in the summer is the newly-named Lunder Building, housing in-patient rooms, operating rooms, and a new emergency department. By the end of 2011, the MGH Museum is scheduled to open. It is currently under construction at the corner of Cambridge and North Grove Streets, on MGH's main campus, and will become the "public face" of the institution.

An intranet site from MGH's Bicentennial Department helps users with logos, images, and links and is available to all <http://www.massgeneral.org/bicentennial/>.

Martha E. Stone, M.S., AHIP

Coordinator for Reference Services

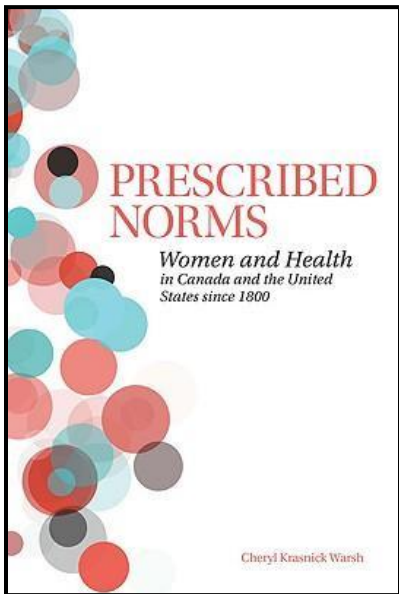
Treadwell Library, BHX - I

Massachusetts General Hospital

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BOOK REVIEWS

Warsh, Cheryl Krasnick, *Prescribed Norms: Women and Health in Canada and the United States since 1800* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010)



Despite centuries of medical questions being answered, the human body remains a mysterious thing; in comparison to the male form, the female body is even more perplexing still. In a tidy 300-or-so pages, Warsh lights candles into the darker corners of women's medical history, the areas whose historically-perceived impoliteness made even medical professionals bristle. In setting the stage for the true scope of the book (North America in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries), Warsh takes us, for example, to ancient Egypt where women used rolled-up papyrus as tampons. Many modern women who've been on, say, camping trips, have had the thought cross their minds of how women in other times and from other cultures

have dealt with menstruation; it might be soothing to some (and surprising to others) that the technology really hasn't changed that much.

Menstrual product technology may remain relatively static, but the myths, the medical practices, the attitudes and genders of caregivers, and the cultural identities in which they're all bound have changed much over the 200-year span of the book. Warsh combs the secondary literature and delivers anecdotes that are in turns moving, infuriating, and comical. Wendy's adventures in *Peter Pan* are posited as a warning to chasten girls post-menarche. Mercury, opium, laudanum, chloroform, electrotherapy and marriage are all offered up as cures to PMS pain. Famed abolitionists Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth are revealed to have also acted as nurses for the Union Army. Warsh weaves these tales in an informative yet approachable manner that is as appropriate for laypeople as it is for medical professionals.

The role of power in women's health, and particularly in women's roles in the medical profession, is a constant thread throughout *Prescribed Norms*. Whether it's male doctors in the new field of obstetrics trying to discredit midwives, professional nurses trying to distance themselves from nursing nuns and public health volunteers, or female doctor pioneers deliberately keeping medical knowledge from the nurses in their charge, someone is always pulling rank on someone else in this history in an attempt to legitimize their standing in the medical professions. Warsh manages to present these power struggles evenhandedly and without resorting to cloying cries of foul play.

It is fitting, and not solely alphabetically convenient, that "Canada" appears before "the United States" in the subtitle of this book (and not only because she spells labour with a "u"). A Professor of History at Vancouver Island University, Warsh also serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Canadian Bulletin of Medical History/Bulletin canadien d'histoire de la médecine*. Clearly it is in Canadian history of medicine where her roots are deepest. Descriptions of Canadian aboriginal practices, Canadian involvement in foreign wars and the Canadian health system take center stage; American history is aptly handled, but in noticeably less detail. As an American reader, the glimpse into Canadian life was refreshing and intriguing. For Canadian readers, this book offers great insight into their country's particular systems in this tumultuous time for modern medicine.

One might suspect that Warsh would argue that the tumultuous times are far from over. In a fascinating but unfortunately brief epilogue, Warsh conveys her thoughts of women's health issues as being exemplified by chaos theory. Long-held beliefs about even the most basic findings in women's health are being consistently uprooted by new research and she points to the numerous paradigm shifts across the centuries to prove her point. Even finding true consistency in methods of ovulation is proving impossible, Warsh argues, as scientists delve deeper into the subject. An interesting paper or even a book could have easily been written based on her chaos theory of women's health alone, but Warsh manages to dip into so many different arenas in *Prescribed Norms* while still avoiding leaving the reader overwhelmed by the work's quiet enormity of scope, condensed into a small package.

Megan Curran

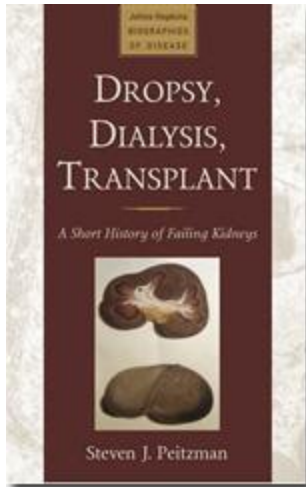
Head of Metadata & Content Management

Norris Medical Library

University of Southern California

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Peitzman, Steven J., *Dropsy, Dialysis, Transplant: A Short History of Failing Kidneys* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007)



Peitzman is deservedly well known as both a nephrologist and a historian of medicine. This book might be his crowning achievement. Its prose is lucid, succinct and graceful, with enough detail to satisfy and attract serious students of medical history but without any abundance of technical jargon or scientific digressions that might daunt the laity.

The purpose of the book is to place kidney disease in its historical, sociological, and recent bureaucratic context. The word “short” in its subtitle may suggest that it is a curtailed or abridged history of all clinical nephrology, but this is not the case. Peitzman does not present an entire or comprehensive history of any length. Rather, he has selected only a few aspects of this history and tells them chronologically as stories. Thus his book consists mainly of vignettes, not isolated from one another, but so related that they illuminate the broader field. A danger in vignetting history is to make the chronology of historical development seem episodic or disjunctive rather than continuous and dialectical, but Peitzman avoids that danger in two ways: first, by selecting what are probably the three most important aspects of the history of clinical nephrology to use as his vignettes — a quick thumb through the “Kidney” section of Garrison-Morton will confirm the wisdom of this selection; and second, by telling them in such a skillfully composed way that their whole historical context becomes clearer.

Pathological anatomy, the science that correlates autopsy findings with symptoms and morbidities that had been observed in the living patient, originated in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, mainly through the work of Giovanni Battista Morgagni (1682-1771), Matthew Baillie (1761-1823), René-Théophile-Hyacinthe Laënnec (1781-1826), and Jean Cruveilhier (1791-1874). It was essential in bringing medical knowledge and clinical expertise into the modern scientific era. Peitzman begins his narrative just before pathological anatomy took hold.

What we now call edema and see in general as symptomatic of other conditions was once called dropsy and was seen as a disease in its own right. When it was common in

the eighteenth century it was not associated with the kidneys. But in 1827, using the latest methods of clinical pathology, Richard Bright (1789-1858) correlated dropsy, albumen in the urine, and a certain granular post mortem appearance of the kidneys all as symptoms of several forms of chronic nephritis. As early as 1844 other physicians had dubbed his discovery "Bright's disease," a name which persisted into the late twentieth century, when it gave way to such designations as "albuminous nephritis" and eventually "glomerulonephritis." When this group of conditions was known collectively as Bright's disease, it was regarded as incurable, relentlessly debilitating and terrifying.

Other significant developments in the pathological anatomy of the kidneys were occurring contemporaneously with Bright's investigations. This brings us to what I consider the only major flaw in Peitzman's book: I wish that he had gone into more detail about the contributions of Pierre François Olive Rayer (1793-1867), whom he mentions only once in passing. Yet he more than makes up for this lacuna by discussing at length the subsequent work of Thomas Addis (1881-1949).

Pessimism about Bright's disease and lack of progress toward its cure continued until Willem Johan Kolff (1911-2009) and Gordon Murray (1894-1976) invented dialysis in the 1940s. Dialysis is the mechanical process of cleansing the living body with an artificial kidney, which is just a fancy filter. It works very well. Both kinds of dialysis, hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis, save lives and relieve some, but not all, of the symptoms of kidney disease. Neither is easy or comfortable for the patient. Dialysis is a treatment, not a cure and the patient's body continues to degenerate.

The prevalence of dialysis has had some unforeseen and unintended consequences. In the 1960s America hailed dialysis as a life-saving "miracle." In 1972 Medicare provisions were amended to pay for anyone's dialysis *in perpetuum*. But, given that insulin and other therapies have extended the lives of many diabetics to the point where they develop serious kidney disease, the demand for dialysis has increased proportionately. Diabetic nephropathy had not been common when most diabetics died young, but now it is causing a strain on available resources and on the Medicare system.

Peitzman depicts kidney transplantation as a nearly complete medical success. His central and stunning example in this regard is the case of NBA star center Alonzo Mourning, who underwent a kidney transplant at age thirty-three in December 2003 and won a league championship with the Miami Heat just two and a half years later in June 2006. Of course, kidney transplantation is not without its yet unsolved sociopolitical and

socioeconomic problems, but medically, it is far superior to dialysis, which sentences its recipients to miserable but longer lifetimes of fatigue and physical incapacity. As Peitzman admits, transplantation is a treatment, not a cure, and little real progress has been made toward preventing or eradicating glomerulonephritis, FSGS (focal segmental glomerulosclerosis), ESRD (end stage renal disease), CKD (chronic kidney disease) or other terminal or potentially terminal kidney disorders.

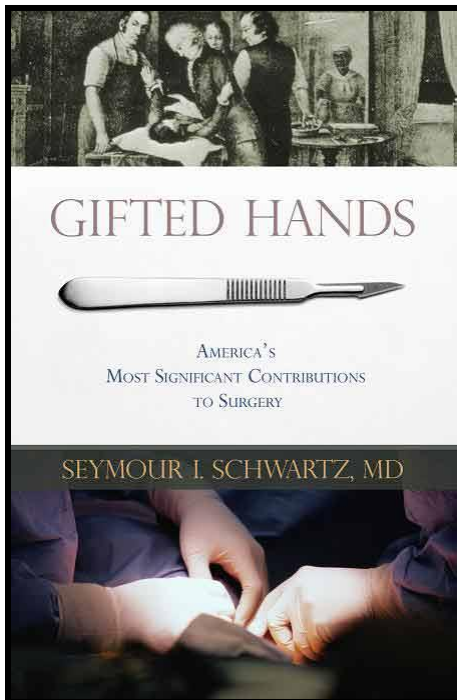
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Schwartz, Seymour I., *Gifted hands: America's Most Significant Contributions to Surgery* (Amherst, N.Y. : Prometheus Books, 2009)



Seymour I. Schwartz is a name that will be familiar to anyone who has even a nodding acquaintance with medical literature. *Principles of Surgery* was first published in 1969 with Schwartz as editor-in-chief, and now in its 9th edition (2010), it has become the eponymous Schwartz's *Principles of Surgery*. Currently the Alumni Professor of Surgery at the University of Rochester Medical Center, Schwartz has edited dozens of books and has written hundreds of journal articles. As he states in his Preface, *Gifted Hands* "is aimed at both interested lay readers and members of the medical profession" and though some in-context attempt is made to explain technical terminology, it is not for the novice. The genesis of this book, Schwartz explains, "can be dated to the

preparation for the video *America's Contributions to Surgery*" which Roche apparently distributed to surgeons in 1992.

The book's subtitle explains the contents. Arranged for the most part in chronologic order, this is the story of American ingenuity at its most accomplished. In 13 chapters

with almost 50 images (mostly of the major players with the gifted hands but also of some of their patients), 18 pages of endnotes, an extensive bibliography and selective index, there is no doubt that this book is well-researched and is quite engagingly written, with descriptions of many of the surgeons' outward appearance, education and personality. Unfortunately, and possibly due to the fact that it was published recently, Schwartz did not include *Genius on the Edge: The Bizarre Double Life of Dr. William Stewart Halsted* by Gerald Imber (New York: Kaplan, 2010) in his bibliography for the chapter devoted to the surgical contributions of John Shaw Billings and William S. Halsted.

Acknowledging that this is very much a "great (white) man" history of surgery, due to its focus on the U. S. of the 19th and early-mid 20th centuries, Schwartz does mention Daniel Hale Williams, the African-American surgeon who in 1893 operated "without known precedence" on a puncture wound to the heart, with such success that the "patient survived for fifty years after the operation, outliving the surgeon." This patient – in Schwartz's words, the "unsung hero" - outlived the surgeon by many years, an occurrence noted with fair regularity throughout the book. A few women have achieved surgical "firsts": In the chapter on cardiothoracic surgery, Dr. Helen Taussig's name appears in the context of the procedure that "evoke[d] the widespread excitement that attended the report of the successful operation [subclavian artery-pulmonary artery anastomosis] that came to be known as the Blalock-Taussig procedure."

In the chapter "Focus on Females," he discusses the vexed history of J. Marion Sims's vesicovaginal fistula surgery, describing the enslaved women on whom Sims experimented. One patient, known only by the name Anarcha, endured (and may well have had little choice but to endure) "thirty procedures without anesthesia" but success was finally achieved.

Gifted Hands is not ground-breaking in any way: the classic *History of Surgery in the United States 1775-1900* by Ira M. Rutkow (San Francisco: Norman, 1988) would be the front-runner for this honor. Unfortunately *Gifted Hands* is marred by a number of errors. A representative sampling includes: a reference to "Boston Medical Hospital" (actually Boston Medical Library); misstatement of the location of Mount Auburn Cemetery (resting place of many individuals from the medical world in Cambridge, not Boston); a reference to the iconic group portrait of Drs. Welch, Osler, Halsted and Kelly, "The Four Doctors," omits the last name of the painter, calling him "John Singer" instead of John Singer Sargent.

Because of the author's reputation, this book is certainly appropriate for medical libraries. Though much of the information in *Gifted Hands* is available in other sources, it is convenient to have it collected in one volume.

Martha E. Stone, M. S., AHIP

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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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