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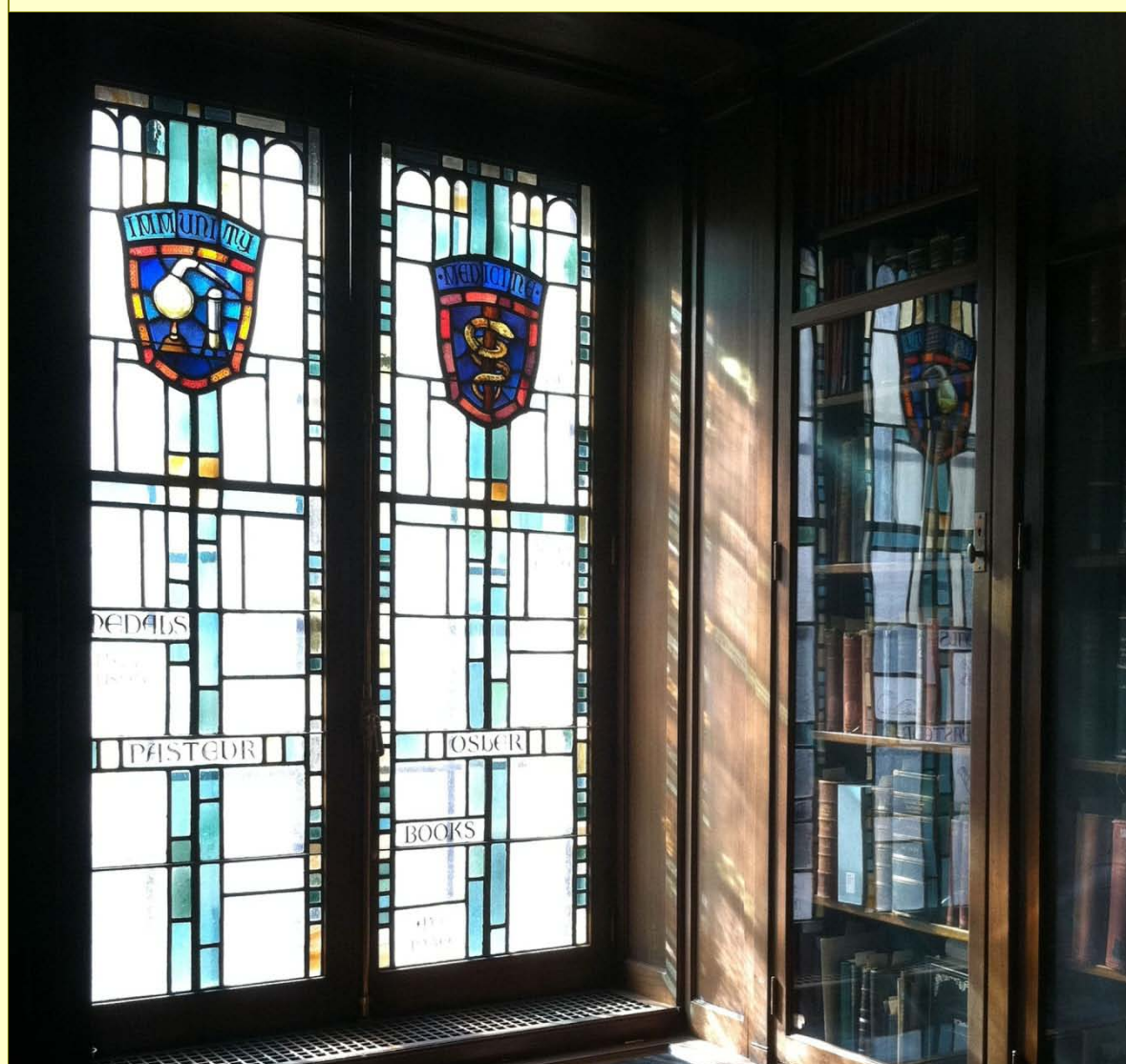
# THE WATERMARK

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

Volume XXXV

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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 Stephen Novak, 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.

Cover Image: Jacobs Room in the Institute of the History of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University.

**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

It may be hard to believe in dark mid-winter, but spring is closer than you might think. This means, of course, that the Annual Meeting of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences – held this year in Baltimore – is imminent. This issue of *The Watermark* includes the details of our program on Thursday, April 26, and information on our host city, conference hotel, and annual Wednesday evening dinner. Thanks to Patricia Gallagher and Holly Herro, our Program Committee Co-Chairs, and to Nancy McCall, heading the Local Arrangements Committee, for their hard work in putting all this together.

Besides reconnecting with colleagues, the Annual Meeting offers a chance to experience Baltimore, a city with a strong – some might say eccentric – identity. It also has an impressive array of libraries and museums, many with important history of medicine content. I hope to see many of you there in April.

Thanks, as always, to the contributors who provide us with information on the doings in their repositories. The lectures, fellowships, and exhibits reported here demonstrate the diversity and vigor of our community.

**Stephen Novak**  
**Editor**

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I was recently chagrined (appalled might be a better word) to realize that I had reached the 20th anniversary of my graduation from library school, and was rapidly closing in on my 20th for the only paid library job I have ever had. Adding insult to injury, I received an invitation to my 40th annual undergraduate reunion, and it's almost 30 years since I received my doctorate. Too many round numbers can be very scary indeed.

Of course, at some level, all this is simply manufactured rites of passage. After all, my library school (Columbia) is long gone, and who would want to go to an undergrad college reunion with those old creeps anyway? (there's an old Groucho Marx punch line lurking in there somewhere). I recall going to a high school reunion some years ago where, to ease the agony of recognition, some clever and well-organized soul had photocopied a copy of the yearbook, cut up the copies, and used the photos as the name badges. The idea had issues, since the lettering was way too small, and we were so white and nerdy that the pictures all looked the same anyway (women included). As I recall, it wasn't even my reunion, but the pictures looked like me anyway.

At any rate, I seem to have metamorphosed from Young Turk to Elder Statesman (or Old Fogey, if you prefer) with no stop in the middle. In doing so, I am often reminded of how much of our organizational continuity is based on some lumpy concept of institutional memory. We are librarians and archivists, but how well do we document ourselves? Where is our archive of Gopher sites? Yes, I have that document, but it's on a five-inch floppy disk in MultiMate or Lotus 1-2-3, and wants DOS 3.1. Or worse, the only person who remembered how that program (computer or otherwise) was supposed to run retired fifteen years ago and died five years after that.

Even the terminology of simple things can get away from us. I am perfectly happy with digital photography, but what am I supposed to call the other stuff that I grew up with: "Traditional" photography? Silver halide? Analog? Wet? Chemical-based? Old fashioned? It goes from bad to worse as the past recedes from us (as I write this, Eastman Kodak stock is selling at 43¢ a share). How do we make sure that we will be understood in some future that knows us not? How can we hope to understand the past if we share no common language?

What does this mean on a quotidian basis? Should we be archiving ourselves? To some degree, I suppose we should. Perhaps each of us should have a finding aid to help future generations appreciate us, or at least understand us a bit.

Oh, well. See you in Baltimore, if I can remember the way.

**Stephen Greenberg**  
**President**

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## CORRECTION

In the previous issue of *The Watermark* (v. 34, no. 4), the article “NLM at 175: A Fantastic Voyage” incorrectly identified the NLM digital repository as Digital Resources, not its proper name, Digital Collections. The URL for this valuable resource is <http://collections.nlm.nih.gov>.

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## ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 25-26 2012 – BALTIMORE



With permission from [Daniel Love](#)

### *Welcome to Baltimore*

Arrangements for the 2012 ALHHS Meeting -from April 25<sup>th</sup> – April 26<sup>th</sup> will afford members an opportunity to connect with Baltimore’s rich medical heritage and its two academic health centers, which are in the forefront of healthcare delivery, research, and education. Events are scheduled at the [University of Maryland Baltimore \(UMB\)](#) on Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup> and at the [Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions \(JHMI\)](#) on Thursday April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Both campuses retain fine examples of original architecture while having expanded over the years and rebuilt to meet new challenges in the health fields. The UMB campus is located conveniently close to the ALHHS conference hotel, - [the Marriott at Camden Yards](#). Across the harbor on the east side of the city is the campus of JHMI.

On Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup> the ALHHS reception and dinner will be held at UMB in the bright and spacious new [SMC Campus Center](#) which is just a short stroll from the Marriott at Camden Yards. An added feature is that the area –where the reception and

dinner will be held overlooks Oriole Park at Camden Yards. That evening [the Toronto Blue Jays will be playing the Orioles](#) so you can expect a backdrop of stadium lights and, hopefully, the happy cheers of a home crowd.

On Thursday morning, April 26<sup>th</sup>, ALHHS members will be bussed eastward to the JHMI campus. The day-long meeting will be held at [the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing](#). Staff of the Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives will offer tours of the UMB campus before the reception and dinner on Wednesday and JHMI after the ALHHS meetings conclude on Thursday.

During their stay in Baltimore ALHHS members may wish to visit some of the city's fine libraries, manuscript repositories, and archives. Major resources for the history of medicine may be found in the [Historical Collections of the Institutes of the History of Medicine at The Johns Hopkins University](#); [the Health Sciences Library at UMB](#) ; [the Baltimore City Archives](#) and [the Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions](#).

Other collections of rare books, manuscripts, and documentation relevant to the history of medicine and the natural sciences are located at the following institutions: [the Peabody Library of The Johns Hopkins University](#); [the Evergreen Library of The Johns Hopkins University](#); [the Library of the Walters Art Museum](#); [the Enoch Pratt Library](#) ; and [the Maryland Historical Society](#).

For more information on Baltimore's history and cultural offerings Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and I invite you to view [this video](#). In addition you may wish to browse [a more extensive list of cultural and recreational attractions](#) to be found in "Charm City." Foodies who are interested in exploring the local cuisine will find good restaurants downtown and in surrounding neighborhoods. Some of you may even want to sign up for [a food tour](#). Please know that my colleagues and I at the Medical Archives especially look forward to welcoming ALHHS to Baltimore in April!

**Nancy McCall**

**Archivist**

**The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions**

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## *Annual Meeting Program*

Join us for a full day of programming during our Annual Meeting on April 26, as ALHHS looks at the challenges surrounding the collection and preservation of digital media, as well as the issues relating to managing and surveying analog videotape collections.

Keynote speaker: **Riccardo Ferrante, Director of Digital Services & IT Archivist at the Smithsonian Institution Archives**

### **Everything Moves Faster in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Digital Challenges and Opportunities**

Today's rate of knowledge creation together with an ever-growing dependence on digital technology requires us to rethink how we collect and preserve the health sciences historical record. Digital record fragility, cloud computing, collaborative e-science and trustworthy repositories are just a few examples of the challenges facing scientific libraries and archives today. We will examine some of the curatorial challenges and the opportunities they represent.

Riccardo Ferrante is Director of Digital Services and the Information Technology Archivist at the Smithsonian Institution Archives. The Archives is both the official records manager and the institutional memory of the Smithsonian's unique complex of museums, galleries, and scientific research centers. As the IT Archivist, Ricc oversees the Archives's electronic records program, its digital curation and preservation, other digitization services and the Archives' web, new media and outreach group. He serves on pan-Institutional task forces to develop guidelines and strategies for digital preservation, curation and digital archives management in the context of a sustainable and trustworthy digital repository. Current professional efforts include the [Federal Agencies Digitization Guidelines Initiative](#). Ferrante joined the Smithsonian Institution Archives as the Electronic Records Program Manager in 2003 and served as a principal investigator for the [Collaborative Electronic Records Project](#) (2005-2008) that developed a digital preservation solution for email accounts. He participated in the drafting of ISO/DIS 1636 "Audit and certification of trustworthy digital repositories." He has presented at national and regional archives and conservation conferences. Prior to his work at the Archives, he worked with libraries and historical societies to develop and implement library information systems (1994-2003). He is a member of the Society of American Archivists and current chair of its Electronic Records Section.



**Following our keynote speaker, we will have ten minute presentations from the membership.**

Micaela Sullivan-Fowler. "From Scurvy to Horseshoe Crabs: The Making and Promotion of Seaworthy: A History of Maritime Health & Medicine."

Susan Rishworth. "Centennial Stories."

Michael North and Stephen Novak. "What's New with the Medical Heritage Library."

Jeffrey Reznick. "News from NLM's History of Medicine Division."

Nancy McCall. "The Archives and History of Medicine Library at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions."

Martha Stone. "Was there an African-American Physician at the Massachusetts General Hospital in 1850? The Case for – and Against – Peter W. Ray"

Brooke Fox. "Increasing Awareness to Maintain Relevancy: The Waring Historical Library's Online Exhibits"

**Following lunch and the business meeting, we will have our final speaker.**

**Sarah Stauderman, Collections Care Manager at the Smithsonian Institution Archives**, will give an overview of the approaches to managing analog videotape collections by surveying their content, formats, and risk factors. She will also discuss recently developed online survey tools and methodologies, and the key definitions regarding magnetic media formats, special handling and use, preservation and reformatting.

Sarah Stauderman is the Collections Care Manager at the Smithsonian Institution Archives, where she oversees the care of paper, book, photographic, moving image and recorded sound materials. Her major research interest has been in the area of magnetic media deterioration and preservation management. She has a master's degree from the art conservation program at Buffalo State College specializing paper conservation. She is the author of the website "[Video Format Identification Guide](#)" at and has published a paper on the many different types of audio signal carriers for the Association of Research Libraries.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be an interesting and informative meeting.

**Patricia E. Gallagher and Holly Herro**  
**Program Committee Co-Chairs**

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## THE HISTORICAL COLLECTION, THE LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE, JOHN HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

The building at 1900 East Monument Street in Baltimore houses two living memorials to the first Dean of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine: the William H. Welch Medical Library on the first two floors and the Institute of the History of Medicine on the third floor. Having retired as the first Dean of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene, Dr. Welch was the first Director of the Institute when the building opened in 1929. The Institute of Hopkins School of Medicine, the editorial office of the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* and the Historical Collection.

Dr. Welch and other planners of the Welch building deliberately sought to make a special place for medical history within it. They envisioned the Medical Library as a center for the retrieval and transmission of the most current biomedical research and the Institute as a repository for the accumulated culture of medicine. The early librarians of the Welch Library, such as Fielding H. Garrison, were themselves medical historians and on the faculty of the Institute. Dr. Welch made provisions for the housing of rare books in vaults in the Institute where the faculty oversaw them. Through the years, the antiquarian collections expanded beyond the capacity of the vaults into other areas of the third floor and into locked cages in the library stacks. In 1969, a former lecture hall in the Institute was transformed into the Maurice H. Givens Rare Book Room and the Historical Collection, with its own professional staff, was established to administer all of the special collections of the Institute of the History of Medicine. The Historical Collection is basically a departmental library, serving the faculty and students of the Institute, but is also heavily used by other members of the Hopkins community, as well as visiting researchers from the United States and abroad.

The Historical Collection contains many personal libraries and other antiquarian material that were acquired by the Hopkins School of Medicine or Hospital before the formation of the Institute of the History of Medicine and the Welch Library in 1929. Dr. Welch even had medically-related material from the main Hopkins campus transferred to his new establishment, including many rare books and John Singer Sargent's painting, "The Four Doctors." As his first assignment as the new Director of the Institute, Dr. Welch spent some months in Europe buying books for both the antiquarian and the Welch Medical Library collections. To build the collections, the much beloved Dr. Welch (to whom it

was hard to say “no”) encouraged faculty and friends to donate to the Institute and the Welch Library.

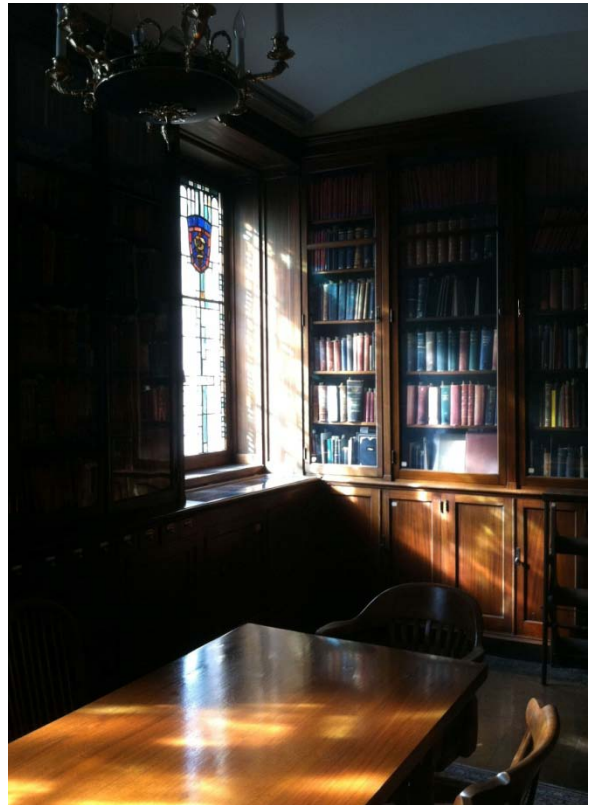
Dr. William Osler, when he was first Professor of Medicine at Hopkins, had influenced many around him to become enthusiastic book collectors, so there was a generous response to Dr. Welch’s request. More than 15,000 books and medical prints came from Howard A. Kelly, Hopkins’s first professor of obstetrics. Other early donors included another of Hopkins’s famous “Four Doctors”: William Halsted. Dr. Osler’s clinical collection was donated to the Welch Library by Lady Osler after his death. And Dr. Welch’s own books came to his namesake library when his estate donated them after Welch’s death in 1934.

A notable collection of rare books and prints was provided by Dr. Henry Barton Jacobs, who had worked under Dr. Osler at Hopkins. Dr. Jacobs later became a major Baltimore philanthropist and served as a trustee of the Johns Hopkins Hospital in the first decades of the twentieth-century. Jacobs’s main research interest was in tuberculosis, but he also acquired major collections relating to smallpox, French medicine of the nineteenth century, Pasteur and Rabelais. A separate room at the Institute was set aside to house the Jacobs Collection. The Institute’s portrait of Edward Jenner, as well as its large collection of his correspondence, are part of the Jacobs Collection. One early donor, the noted bibliophile Leonard Mackall, became interested in medical history through his friendship with Dr. Osler and donated extremely rare copies of several works of Miguel Serveto, the sixteenth-century Spanish theologian and physician who was condemned as a heretic.

The Institute also benefited through the good services of Dr. Osler as a book scout for the collection. Through Dr. Osler’s recommendation in 1906, Hopkins acquired from England the entire Warrington Dispensary Library, a collection of close to a thousand, mainly British, medical books from the sixteenth through the eighteenth centuries. Not only did Dr. Osler arrange the sale, but he found a donor, Mr. William A. Marburg, a wealthy Baltimorean, to underwrite the purchase. In addition, Dr. Osler donated to Hopkins a copy of the first edition of William Harvey’s *De motu cordis* at the celebration for the presentation of the Warrington Dispensary Library. Again with Mr. Marburg’s assistance and Dr. Osler’s bidding at auction, Hopkins was able to purchase the unique medical print collection created by Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson, an English surgeon, ophthalmologist, dermatologist, venereologist and pathologist, whose career spanned

the mid-nineteenth- through the early twentieth-centuries. All this material was later transferred to the Institute.

While buying books in Europe, Dr. Welch also made the acquaintance of Dr. Henry Sigerist, Director of the Institute for the History of Medicine (Institut für Geschichte der Medizin) at the University of Leipzig. In 1931, Dr. Sigerist came to the Institute at Hopkins as a Visiting Fellow and succeeded Dr. Welch as Director the following year. Dr. Sigerist also encouraged donations to the antiquarian collections and attempted to create a museum collection, as an addition to the rare books, manuscripts, prints and photographs at the Institute. After Dr. Sigerist left the Hopkins in 1947, the interest in collecting artifacts waned, but the material, ranging from phrenological heads, to bleeding instruments, is frequently used for exhibitions and classes.



The Historical Collection is now housed in several rooms and vaults in the Institute, as well as on the top three of the Welch Library's eight levels of book stacks. The collection contains over seventy thousand volumes, including runs of more than 300 journals. In addition to the rare books, manuscripts, prints and photographs, the Historical Collection has a comprehensive collection of over forty thousand books - secondary literature in the history of medicine - and it subscribes to most of the currently published periodicals in history of the life sciences and the social studies of medicine.

Current acquisitions include works in the history of health care, the biomedical sciences, and public health, as well as medical anthropology, art and medicine, literature and medicine, religion and medicine, gender issues in medicine, bioethics, and the history and sociology of science. The rare book collection with more than thirty thousand volumes has scattered strengths, largely concentrated in the seventeenth- and

eighteenth-centuries and primarily in western medicine. There is also a small group of eighteen and nineteenth-century Japanese and Chinese imprints, part of the gift of Dr. Kelly. Among its treasures are: a copy of the first printed “medical” book, Jean Gerson’s *De pollutione nocturna* (actually not a medical book at all); two copies of the 1500 edition of Johannes de Ketham’s 1491 *Fasciculus Medicinae* (one hand-colored); and all editions of Andreas Vesalius’s *De Fabrica*. The collection contains many of the earliest printed editions of the works of classical, Arabic and medieval medical writers in its fifteenth- and sixteenth century collections. The oldest medical text at the Institute is a six-hundred-year-old manuscript copy of a tenth-century treatise written in Salerno and there is also a large collection of Ceylonese palm-leaf medical manuscripts dating from the seventeenth- through the nineteenth-century.

In 2003, the Institute acquired over 5,000 volumes from the defunct library of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland. Containing many imprints from the early nineteenth-century, a period ignored by most of the book collectors whose libraries came to Hopkins, it was a most welcome gift. The Historical Collection continues to add to both its modern and antiquarian collections, through gift, purchase and transfers from the Welch Medical Library. Many of the Historical Collections current periodicals are now available in digital versions only, since publishers’ practices of bundling titles and discontinuance of print-only subscriptions, has made it impossible to acquire them in any other way. While the use of digital periodical resources is well-established and very convenient, researchers frequently request the Institute’s printed copies of monographs, old and new, even when there are e-texts available. This may not be changing very soon for those who work in the humanities, so the Historical Collection will continue to be of value to the researchers who depend on it for some time to come. While Dr. Welch’s namesake medical library at Johns Hopkins attempts to rapidly transform itself into a virtual institution, The Historical Collection of the Institute of the History of Medicine will remain in his building as part of his legacy to Johns Hopkins University.

**Christine A. Ruggere**

**Associate Director, Institute of the History of Medicine  
The Johns Hopkins University**

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



### *Hidden Treasure*

To celebrate its 175th anniversary, the National Library of Medicine has produced *Hidden Treasure*, a book of rare, unique, idiosyncratic, beautiful, and surprising works in the Library's collection. Each "treasure" is accompanied by a one-page descriptive essay.

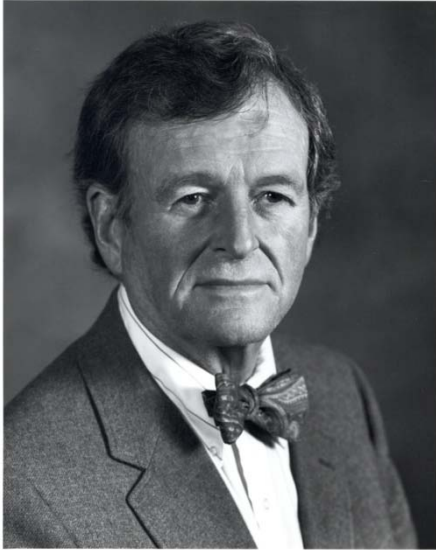
*Hidden Treasure* sounds important themes in the history of medicine and print and the larger field of cultural studies. It features canonical books and manuscripts that have a "hidden" aspect, but also obscure pamphlets, trading cards, diaries, glass "magic lantern" slides, news clippings, handbills, stereograph cards, scrapbooks, film stills, watercolors, posters, etc.—on a wide range of topics. The materials are beautiful, grotesque, disturbing, humorous, revelatory, and come from many different times and places. An introduction discusses the Library's history and current standing.

*Hidden Treasure* is a 240-page full-color, hardcover art book featuring 80 treasures and 450 images. Edited by NLM historian Dr. Michael Sappol, designed by award-winning book designer Laura Lindgren, and photographed by Arne Svenson, a New York-based photographer, it is scheduled for April release by Blast Books, a New York publisher of books on graphic design, art, and medical history, including last year's ALHHS Best Book Award-winner, *Dissection: Photographs of a Rite of Passage in American Medicine, 1880-1930* (2009). Until April, *Hidden Treasure* is available for pre-order through all major online booksellers.

The text of *Hidden Treasure* is written for the college-educated non-specialist reader — although it is hoped that the book will also be enjoyed by middle and high school students, health professionals and advanced scholars. Many people know of MedlinePlus and other NLM websites but are unaware of the riches of the NLM's collections. *Hidden Treasure* spotlights the Library and its treasures and will help the NLM become more visible, compelling, and accessible to a broader public.



## *Papers of Henry Swan Added to the National Library of Medicine's Profiles in Science Web Site*



**Henry Swan, c. 1981. Henry Swan II Papers. National Library of Medicine.**

The National Library of Medicine has released an extensive selection from the papers of American surgeon Henry Swan (1913-1996), who pioneered the use of hypothermia for heart surgery, on the Library's [Profiles in Science® Web site](#). 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 thirty-three.

During World War II, Swan served in the U.S. Army's 4<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary Surgical Group, which landed in France as part of the Normandy invasion in June 1944. By the war's end, he had performed over 1,600 surgeries. Returning home, he joined the faculty at the University of Colorado Medical School

in 1946, becoming the first full-time faculty member in the department of surgery. Like many surgeons of that era, Swan became interested in exploring ways to work on the heart. In 1949, after several years of experimental work with dogs, he did the first successful repair of an aortic aneurysm using a section of stored cadaver aorta. In 1953, he overcame the biggest single challenge facing cardiac surgeons: stopping or slowing the heart without depriving the brain of oxygen. Swan was able to safely induce hypothermia to reduce a patient's metabolic functions—and thus the need for oxygen—long enough to stop the heart and operate on its interior. Though not the first to successfully perform such a procedure (two other surgeons had done so the previous year), Swan quickly established himself as the foremost expert, performing hundreds of cardiac surgeries with hypothermia between 1953 and 1962. Although soon eclipsed by improved heart-lung bypass devices, Swan's successful methods afforded many surgeons their first open-heart experiences. His intensive laboratory research greatly expanded medical understanding of the physiologic and metabolic changes that occur during cardiac surgery.

Profiles in Science features digitized correspondence, published articles, departmental reports, and photographs from the Henry Swan Papers at the National Library of Medicine. Visitors to the site can view, for example, Swan's college letters to his family,

and his World War II letters to his wife describing his experiences as a surgeon on the front lines; correspondence with professional colleagues, and a rich selection of photos documenting his life and career.

*HMD Opens New Online Exhibition: "Building a National Medical Library on a Shoestring: 1872, the First Year"*



**John Shaw Billings, c.1870s.  
Prints & Photographs Collection,  
National Library of Medicine.**

The National Library of Medicine, a component of the National Institutes of Health, celebrates a crucial turning point in its history with a new web exhibit: "Building a National Medical Library on a Shoestring: 1872, the First Year."

The exhibition focuses on the dramatic 1872 change in the library's mission. Founded in 1836 as the office library for the Army Surgeon General, the Library came under the stewardship of Army Major John Shaw Billings in 1865. Seven years later, the Library embarked on a venture to acquire the most complete set possible of medical books and journals. Billings and his work set the course for the Library's identity today as the World's Largest Medical Library.

The core of the exhibition is found in the stories, difficulties, and situations that Billings encountered as he began building a comprehensive collection as quickly as possible, as frugally as possible. The exhibition also shows the Library's early years, exploring the practical uses that the limited collection then supported. Included is a full bibliography of published materials by and about John Shaw Billings, including articles and pamphlets, reports, books and monographs, and speeches.

For more information about the project, please contact James Labosier, Associate Curator of Archives and Modern Manuscripts, at [labosij@mail.nih.gov](mailto:labosij@mail.nih.gov)

## *HMD Opens New Online Exhibition: "Family Planning and Socioeconomic Development: Posters from China"*

The History of Medicine Division has released a new online exhibit, *Family Planning and Socioeconomic Development: Posters from China*. Based in the Library's premier collection of posters and ephemera from the People's Republic of China, the exhibit features over 30 images ranging from the 1950s through the 1990s, from the first years of the People's Republic, through the Cultural Revolution, and into the recent era of rapid social change and economic growth. Curated by Dr. Liping Bu, professor of history at Alma College, the exhibit includes material on birth control, national development and family planning, and the unintended effects of a nation of one-child families. The exhibit may be found [here](#).

This site joins four other online exhibitions of Chinese public health images: Health for the People: Continuity and Change in Asian Medicine (2010), Consumptive Disease: Chinese Anti-Tuberculosis Posters, 1950-1980 (2010), Chinese Anti-Malaria Posters (2009), and Chinese Public Health Posters (2006). All are available [here](#).



**计划生育好处多！ Family Planning Has Many Advantages.** (Produced by Ningpo City's Health Bureau, Red Cross Association, and the Science and Technology Association; June 1963.) Chinese Public Health Collection, National Library of Medicine.

## *Finding Aids Consortium expanded and updated*

The History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) has expanded [its History of Medicine Finding Aids Consortium](#). The Consortium is a search-and-discovery tool for archival resources in the health sciences that are described by finding aids and held by various institutions throughout the United States. As with the initial release, the new content that has been crawled consists of finding aids delivered as EAD, PDF and HTML from a diverse institutional cohort. The site now indexes over 3,000 finding aids from 20 institutions.

The new content contributors are:

• The College of Physicians of Philadelphia • Houston Academy of Medicine–Texas Medical Center Library • McGill University Osler Library Archives • Mount Sinai Medical Center • New York Academy of Medicine • New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center • Ohio State University Medical Heritage Center • Oregon Health & Science University

The Consortium Members and the number of finding aids indexed are:

• NLM History of Medicine Division (498) • The College of Physicians of Philadelphia (377) • Columbia University Health Sciences Library (274) • Drexel University College of Medicine (29) • Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine, Harvard University (117) • Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library (22) • McGill University Osler Library Archives (207) • Medical Archives, Johns-Hopkins University Medical Institutions (316) • Mount Sinai Medical Center (24) • NMHM Otis Historical Archives (41) • New York Academy of Medicine (33) • New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center (84) • Ohio State University Medical Heritage Center (109) • Oregon Health & Science University (118) • University of California-San Francisco (178) • UPenn Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing (92) • University of Virginia Health Sciences Library (45) • Virginia Commonwealth University (38) • Washington University School of Medicine (375) • Yale University Library (47).

NLM invites libraries, archives and museums which include in their collections archival materials related to the history of medicine and health sciences to join.

For more information about the project or requests to join the Consortium, please contact John P. Rees, Archivist and Digital Resources Manager, NLM, at [reesj@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:reesj@nlm.nih.gov).

### *NLM Contributions to MHL*

The National Library of Medicine is pleased to announce that it has digitized over 5,000 volumes from its early Americana collection consisting of over 1,000,000 pages. Materials are being uploaded to the [NLM Digital Collections site](#) on a regular basis and are ready for viewing. This digitization is in part funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation in collaboration with the [Medical Heritage Library](#). NLM hopes to begin uploading its digital material from this project to the [MHL's collections page on Internet Archive](#) soon.

## *Exhibition Program*

During the fall of 2011, the Schusterman Library at the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa hosted a traveling banner exhibition produced by the Exhibition Program at the National Library of Medicine titled *Opening Doors: Contemporary African American Academic Surgeons*. Junie C. Janzen, MLIS, librarian at Schusterman, chose the occasion to research and write a booklet on the history of African American physicians in Oklahoma. *Opening Doors in Oklahoma: The Role of African-American Physicians* recounts the story of Dr. George Tann (1835-1909) who provided care to the early residents of Washington County, Oklahoma, and trained women from the community to provide nursing care to patients in a “hospital house” he built near Bartlesville. Ms. Janzen’s text describes the history of African American physicians who came to Oklahoma including Dr. James Troy Jeter who, in 1908, was selected the first president of the Oklahoma (Colored) Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association and Dr. Abraham Isaiah Davis who practiced for more than 60 years in Oklahoma City. Bringing the story up to contemporary times, Ms. Janzen includes mention of Dr. Marie Mink, the first full-time African American faculty at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and Dr. Vivian Moon Lewis, who in 1955, became the first African American women to graduate from the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine.

Each year, the Exhibition Program produces new traveling banner exhibitions on a variety of topics related to the social and cultural history of medicine. These exhibitions travel to libraries and cultural centers across America. Most recently, through partnerships with the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Army Center of History and Heritage, exhibitions have traveled to Europe and Argentina.

Whether featuring a show about American Civil War veterans (*Life and Limb: The Toll of the American Civil War*), global health (*Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health*), or the ancient arts of navigation and voyaging of the people of Hawai’i (*A Voyage to Health*), host venues create a variety of public programs related to the subject matter of exhibitions. Libraries have developed complementary exhibitions featuring materials and stories from their own communities. In addition, libraries have sponsored talks, receptions, movie programs, and career days. *Opening Doors* helped create a catalyst for archival research that brought to light the opportunities and challenges encountered by African American pioneers on the frontier of Oklahoma. Thanks to the Schusterman Library and to Junie Janzen for this new work.

## *Recent HMD Seminars*

**December 5, 2011**

**Jeffrey S. Reznick, PhD., Chief, History of Medicine Division, NLM,** "The Future of NLM's History of Medicine Division."

**December 1, 2011**

**Dan Cohen, George Mason University,** "The Future of Digital History."

**November 9, 2011**

**James Labosier, History of Medicine Division, NLM,** "Today began in 1872: Traces of the library John Shaw Billings inherited and how he expanded it."

**October 27, 2011**

**Stephen J. Greenberg, History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine, NIH,** "NLM at 175: A Librarian's View."

**September 26, 2011**

**David M. Morens, MD, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH,** "The Forgotten Indispensable Man: Joe Kinyoun and the Birth of NIH."

**Jeffrey S. Reznick**

**Deputy Chief, History of Medicine Division**

**National Library of Medicine**

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## **NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME LIBRARY**

### *Papers of the Eugenics Society to be Digitised*

We are delighted to announce that with the kind permission of the Galton Institute, and as part of our programme to create a [Wellcome Digital Library](#), we will be digitising the papers of one of our most popular archive collections: the papers of the [Eugenics Society](#). The collection will be digitised in full and made freely available online, subject to Data Protection and privacy issues as set out in our [access policy](#) (pdf). These images will enable readers to access large amounts of archive material remotely from anywhere in the world.

In order to develop this world-class digital resource, access to the collection will be affected. The collection will be digitised in batches between 21st November 2011 and 26th September 2012. Please see the [archives digitization schedule](#) for full details. Microfilm copies of material in the Eugenics Society collection will not be affected and will remain available for consultation. Access to this collection whilst it is being digitised



will continue to be granted only once prior written permission from the [Galton Institute](#) has been obtained.

The creation of the Wellcome Digital Library is due to be completed in late 2012. Other Library collections included in this phase of the project are the substantial Francis Crick archive, the papers of [Fred Sanger](#), [Arthur Ernest Mourant](#), the [Medical Research Council Blood Group Unit](#), [Honor Fell](#), and [Carlos Paton Blacker](#). The aim is to provide a documentary record of modern genetics, not only from a scientific perspective, but also from political, economic, technological, social, cultural and personal viewpoints. It will throw open the doors of the Wellcome Library and its unique collections to a worldwide audience, and provide a global resource for the study of the history of medicine and modern bioscience.

### *Medical Officer of Health Reports to be Digitised*

The Wellcome Library has received [Joint Information Systems Committee](#) (JISC) funding towards the creation of a major free online dataset covering public health in London from the mid-19th century to the late 20th century.

This project is based on the reports of the Medical Officers of Health (MOH) in Greater London between 1848 and 1972. Of all the collections in the Wellcome Library the MOH reports have the greatest research potential for the study of public health history in 19th and 20th century Britain, and are one of the most heavily



consulted collections at the Wellcome Library. Online access to this resource will vastly increase their impact on research and would be invaluable to public health researchers, epidemiologists and practitioners, as well as medical and social historians.

The Medical Officers of Health systematically monitored and oversaw the provision of disparate services that contributed to the well-being of local populations. The Officers – individually and as a group – were one of the most influential agents of social and medical reform in Britain over a period of more than a century. Their reports contain a

wealth of information (especially statistical data) and there is a long pedigree of advanced research using MOH reports as primary source materials for a wide range of subjects including (but not limited to) food and food safety; maternity and child welfare; housing; pollution; manufacturing (e.g. the inspection of workshops); shops and offices; sanitation; social care; civil liberties; demography; engineering and meteorological conditions.

Digitising these extensive holdings will not only improve access to an important body of research material, but will offer opportunities for new approaches to text and data mining. Digitisation and text encoding will be carried out in 2012, and will be made freely available on the Wellcome Digital Library website in early 2013. For more information you can read the project plan on the [JISC website](#) (pdf).

### *ALCS and PLS to Provide 'Rights Identification Service' for Book Digitisation*

The Wellcome Library will be working in collaboration with the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society ([ALCS](#)) and the Publishers Licensing Society ([PLS](#)) to identify rights holders of in-copyright books for digitisation. This project is part of the Wellcome Digital Library [pilot programme](#), focusing on the digitisation of around 1,700 key works relating to the history of modern genetics that are known to be, or likely to be, in copyright.

Dr Simon Chaplin, Head of the Wellcome Library, explains: "As a library that supports the understanding of medicine in culture, providing access to key scientific texts for historians is of paramount importance to our mission. By working with rights-holders and their representatives, we hope to create a robust and sustainable model that meets the needs of researchers, authors and publishers."

The Wellcome Library has published a [list of authors](#) online and encourages copyright holders represented on this list to make contact. Rights holders may be added to this list from time to time if and when we add books to the scope for digitisation, or come across new copyright holders during the identification process. More details on this project are available through this [press release](#).

### *Twenty Years in the Archives*

When the Wellcome Library surveys readers to assess their level of satisfaction with our service, a common comment is to highlight the helpfulness of the staff (a comment for which we are extremely grateful). We'd like to think that this begins with recruiting the right people; but it's also a result of a stable staff, long-serving Library employees

building their experience and skills as time passes, and sharing this knowledge with readers and colleagues. On that note, today we'd like to mark twenty years' service to the Library by Dr Richard Aspin, the Head of Research and Scholarship.



Richard joined us from Lambeth Palace Library in 1991, arriving in a library very different from today's. His role initially was as Curator of Western Manuscripts, head of a department of just two people looking after pre-1900 archival material: twentieth-century material was looked after by the then Contemporary Medical Archives Centre. Since that time we have

seen the merger of those two bodies into today's Archives and Manuscripts department; the introduction of a database to make archive catalogues visible and searchable online; the refitting of 183 Euston Road not once but twice; and now, the impending transformation of our reader experience by mass digitisation and the collection of born-digital archives. Throughout these changes, one constant has been Richard's combination of level-headedness, diplomacy and scholarship worn lightly. We, and our readers, have been the beneficiaries.

For regular updates on the work of the Wellcome Library, see [our blog](#) or [follow us on Twitter](#).

**Ross MacFarlane**

**Research Officer**

**Wellcome Library**

**[r.macfarlane@wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:r.macfarlane@wellcome.ac.uk)**

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## NEWS FROM MEMBERS

### *ACOG Announces 2012 Fellow*

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists announces that the recipient of the year 2012 ACOG Fellowship in the History of American Obstetrics and Gynecology is Shannon K. Withycombe, PhD, whose research project is, "From Mother to Child: the Beginnings of Prenatal Health Care in Early Twentieth-Century American Medicine and Public Policy."

The award carries a stipend of \$5,000 to be used to defray expenses while spending a month in the ACOG Resource Center historical collection, and other medical/historical collections in the Washington, DC area, performing research into some area of American obstetric-gynecologic history. Applications for the year 2013 award will be accepted until October 1, 2012.

For further information and application forms contact:

**Debra Scarborough, Special Collections Librarian**  
**Resource Center**  
**The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists**  
**409 Twelfth Street, SW**  
**Washington, DC 20024**  
**(202) 863-2578**  
**(202) 863-5401 (fax)**  
**[dscarborough@acog.org](mailto:dscarborough@acog.org)**

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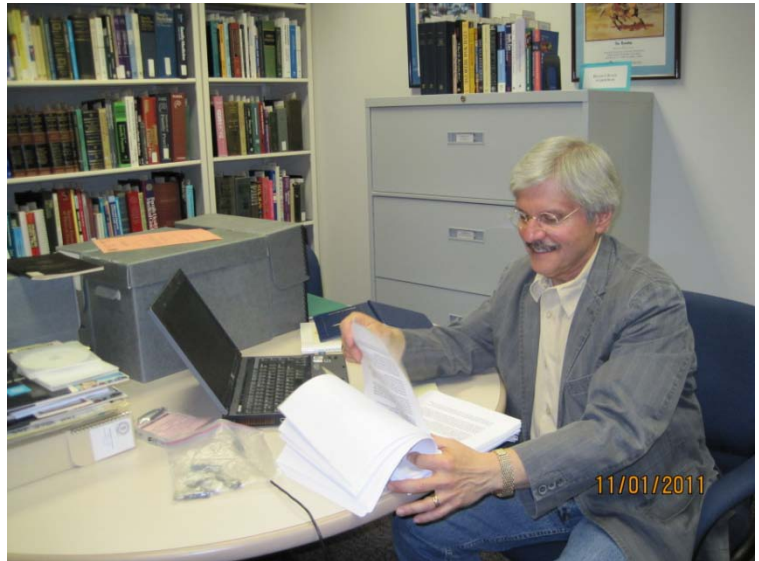
### *Fellow Visits the Center for the History of Family Medicine*

The winner of the Center for the History of Family Medicine's first annual fellowship award, Dr. Richard Feldman of Indianapolis, Indiana, recently paid a visit to the Center to complete research on his fellowship project.

Dr. Feldman visited the CHFM in Leawood, Kansas, on October 31st and November 1st, where he conducted research in the Center's collections for his upcoming book, *Family Practice Stories*.

Dr. Feldman's *Family Practice Stories* is a collection of stories told by and about Indiana family doctors practicing in the mid-twentieth century. According to Dr. Feldman, "These were the general practitioners of that 'Greatest Generation' who possessed the character, core values and principles from which our contemporary specialty of family medicine was modeled - and grew."

Dr. Feldman is a practicing family physician at the St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers in Beech Grove, Indiana, where he has served as Program Director of the Family Medicine Residency Program since 1981 and as Director of Medical Education since 1999. A former Indiana State Health Commissioner and Past-President and Chairman of the Board of the



Indiana Academy of Family Physicians, Dr. Feldman also currently serves as an Assistant Clinical Professor at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

On his visit to the Center, Dr. Feldman added: "What a great experience coming to the Center for the History of Family Medicine to complete the research for my book was. I gained a greater appreciation for the history of family medicine, particularly its transformation from general practice. In the two days I spent at the Center, I was able to add historical detail to the book, found some needed specific information on notable Indiana family physicians, and identified photographs and other graphics that will round out the book quite nicely . . . I feel privileged to have had this opportunity." Dr. Feldman plans to submit the book for publication in spring 2012, with a target date of publication within the next 12 to 18 months.

The CHFM presently sponsors one \$1,500 Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine each year. Interested family physicians, other health professionals, historians, scholars, educators, scientists and others are invited to apply for the 2012 Fellowship.

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 deadline to apply is Friday, March 30, 2012. All applications will be reviewed in April, with the Fellowship award announced by May 31, 2012. For complete fellowship rules, application forms and instructions, [go here](#).

**Angela Curran, MHA**  
**Assistant Manager**  
**Center for the History of Family Medicine**

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### *Jacobus tenBroek Library Inaugurates Archives Portal*

The National Federation of the Blind Jernigan Institute (NFBJI) invites researchers to use the resources of the Jacobus tenBroek Library. In addition to our collection of published material (searchable through our online catalog, [THE BLIND CAT](#), the tenBroek Library is developing a manuscript collection on blindness and on Jacobus tenBroek's other areas of accomplishment. We are pleased to announce [NFB Archon](#), a portal to the library's archives and manuscripts collection.

Jacobus tenBroek was the founding president of the NFB and served in that capacity (with a break of several years) from 1940 until his death in 1968. A law graduate of the University of California with an advanced degree from Harvard Law School, tenBroek was a significant constitutional scholar whose work was cited in the NAACP Legal Defense Fund's brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education*. As a faculty member at Berkeley in the 1950s and 60s, tenBroek argued against the loyalty oath and in favor of the Free Speech Movement. TenBroek sat on the California Welfare Board and was its chair for a period. His 1966 article, "The Right to Live in the World," is regarded as one of the foundational documents of disability rights law.

In addition to the 326 linear feet of the Jacobus tenBroek Personal Papers, the tenBroek Library currently holds the archives of the National Federation of the Blind, as well as several smaller collections. From its founding, the NFB has been a blind-led organization, unafraid of confrontation with agencies and government bureaus whose



services to the blind were deficient or otherwise indicative of condescension, low expectations, and lack of trust for the blind as consumers.

On tenBroek's death, Kenneth Jernigan succeeded him as NFB president. Jernigan, who also served as Director of the Iowa Commission for the Blind from 1958 to 1978, revolutionized rehabilitation training for the blind by infusing the Iowa program with the NFB's positive philosophy of blindness. Jernigan's successor, Marc Maurer, has built the NFB into the recognized voice of the organized blind in the United States. The NFB Archives incorporates Jernigan's and Maurer's extensive correspondence, along with records documenting a wide range of NFB programs and activities.

Finding aids for the tenBroek Papers and the NFB Archives are searchable through [NFB Archon](#), as is the finding aid for the smaller Dorothy Tombaugh Collection. Tombaugh was a sighted high school biology teacher frustrated by the absence of resources for teaching blind students who were mainstreamed at her public school. Working with her husband, an engineer, she developed innovative techniques and apparatus for blind science students in the period before personal computers became ubiquitous. With grant funds awarded by the National Science Foundation, Tombaugh toured the country training other teachers in her techniques.

Our other accessioned—but not fully processed—collections include the papers of Isabelle Grant, Robert Jaquiss, and James Omvig. Grant, who died in 1977, was a blind teacher and two-time Fulbright Fellow who travelled independently throughout Asia and Africa; Jaquiss is a blind technology specialist whose parents minutely documented his early life and their successful efforts to teach him independence in the 1950s and 60s; Omvig was a student of Kenneth Jernigan and remains a leading member of the NFB. We also hold a sizable unprocessed collection of museum articles that includes electronic and mechanical devices developed for use by blind people. None of our growing collection of oral history interviews has been transcribed, but we will accept inquiries about them.

**Ed Mormon**

**Director, Jacobus tenBroek Library**

**National Federation of the Blind**

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### *NFPF Awards Preservation Grant to Waring Historical Library*

The Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina, was awarded a basic preservation grant in the amount of \$1500 through the National Film Preservation Foundation (NFPF) to preserve the film, *Contractile Force*. The film documents Dr. Robert P. Walton's early heart research using the Walton-Brodie strain gauge arch. In *Contractile Force*, a strain gauge arch is shown attached to a beating heart as the strain gauge records the force of the contractions. This original film, made in 1948, is the only copy in existence of this particular experiment.

The Walton-Brodie strain gauge arch was used for many years by numerous national and international scientists interested in how the heart generates the force necessary to pump the blood through the blood vessels. It was sewed onto the outside of the heart



muscle to measure the force of the contraction of the heart, beat by beat. It was used experimentally in animal studies and was ultimately used in patients undergoing open-heart surgery. With the use of the strain gauge arch, physiologists and pharmacologists were able to understand how drugs work to affect the way in which the heart generates its force of contraction in response to drugs, physiologic stimuli and

diseases. Though the device is no longer in use, the lessons learned from using it provide the basis for current understanding of how the heart works today.

The Waring Historical Library is one of 22 institutions to receive funding from the National Film Preservation Foundation during its summer 2011 grant cycle.

For more information, please contact E. Brooke Fox, MUSC University Archivist at 843-792-6477 or [foxeb@musc.edu](mailto:foxeb@musc.edu).

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### *Waring Historical Library Wins SCAA Innovation Award*

The Waring Historical Library at the Medical University of South Carolina has been named one of the winners of the South Carolina Archival Association's (SCAA) 2011 "Program Innovation" award. This award recognizes the Waring's achievement in increasing the visibility of the special collections at the Medical University of South Carolina via MEDICA, online and physical exhibits, and an oral history program.



Over the past three years, staff at the Waring Historical Library, led by curator Susan Hoffius, university archivist Brooke Fox, and digital archivist Jennifer Welch, have increased the visibility of the special collections. By incorporating current technologies and exploring new ways of increasing awareness of and access to its collections, the Waring Historical Library has successfully expanded its outreach program beyond the Medical University of South Carolina. Some of the innovative outreach tools used by the Waring include MEDICA (MUSC's digital library), an oral history program, and physical and online exhibits.

The Waring's most significant innovation has been MEDICA, the institutional repository and digital archives of the Medical University of South Carolina. MEDICA was created to provide access to current research of MUSC faculty and students, as well as the historical archival collections held at MUSC's Waring Historical Library and University Archives.

The oral history program, established in 2008, has captured histories of MUSC from a variety of perspectives: faculty, staff, patients, and alumni. These interviews have been used to develop online and physical exhibits that have told the rich history of MUSC.

Physical and online exhibits have been used to share stories of MUSC's impact on medicine, research, and patient care in South Carolina. Exhibits have focused

not only on the institution as a whole, but its faculty, staff, students, patients, and surrounding community.

This award was presented to the Waring Historical Library staff on October 6, 2011 at the SCAA's annual meeting in Columbia. "It is a great honor to be recognized by our peers around the state for the work we have done over the last few years to raise the visibility of the Waring, its collections and programs," said Curator Susan Hoffius about the award.

**(Pictured from left: Jennifer Welch, Susan Hoffius, and Brooke Fox)**

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## MEMBER PROFILES



**Name:** Elaine Challacombe

**Member of ALHHS since:** 1993

**Hometown:** Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota

**Current Employer and Position:** Curator of the Wangensteen Historical Library of Biology & Medicine, University of Minnesota

**Education:** Undergrad: Bachelor's of Music in Applied Piano Pedagogy, Michigan State University, 1974. Master's in Library Science with a focus on special libraries,

Western Michigan University, 1975

**Professional interests:** The joy of working with special collections is the multiple professional responsibilities, with feet in both camps of acquisitions/tech services and reference. I love collection development because of the possibilities for teaching and research. I love the tech side because the development of metadata encourages you to think creatively about how folks would use the items in hand and how a researcher might search for the information.

I am fortunate to be able to work with such a rich collection and also to be incorporated into the teaching and research of our faculty and graduate staff. We have fun stuff and it

is great to be able to share it with folks who understand and appreciate what they have in hand. The Academic Health Center of the University of Minnesota is comprised of six professional schools; medicine, nursing, public health, dentistry, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine. We collect and support materials for all of them but resources also “delight and amaze” students and researchers from other departments such as English, Comparative Literature, the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, and Women’s Studies. We have provided the resources for a public program (Hippocrates Café) on health issues that is supported by a local clinic with the actors of the Guthrie Theater. There is no end to the possibilities and variety of any given day.

**Other facts, interests, or hobbies:** I love the cultural diversity of a large university. When I purchase an 18<sup>th</sup> century Chinese text it is great to have residents who can read and appreciate the book. Students who use the collections reflect the diversity and force us to think of our collections in new ways.

Our Health Sciences Libraries are part of the library system on campus rather than the medical school so opportunities for collaboration with the other ten special collections on campus give us a broader audience.

As for interests or hobbies, it would have to be my Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. I have two rubies (they are red heads to the core) and they are part of a family of four dogs and one cat. I am active in the American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club and am responsible for developing an archival program for this national organization.



**Name:** Melissa Grafe

**Member of ALHHS since:** 2011

**Hometown:** Guilford, Connecticut

**Current Employer and Position:** John R. Bumstead Librarian for Medical History, Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Library, Yale University

**Education:** I received a B.A. in History and Politics from Ursinus College in Pennsylvania. I completed a Ph.D in the History of Medicine from Johns Hopkins in 2009. I

was a CLIR (Council on Library and Information Resources) postdoctoral fellow at Lehigh University from 2009-2010.

**Professional interests:** Digitization, collection management and development, learning new web and digital tools, teaching, and research support. I also research early American medical practice, apprenticeship, and the transmission of knowledge in the Atlantic world.

**Other facts, interests, or hobbies:** I enjoy traveling, especially with some ocean time, reading, growing herbs, and spending time with my family.

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## EVENTS

### *Civil War Lectures at New York Academy of Medicine*

The New York Academy of Medicine presents a special three-part miniseries on Civil War medicine as part of the 2011-2012 public lecture series:

The American Civil War proved as much a turning point for American medicine as for the nation as a whole. Treating the wounded, the sick, and the dying, as well as improving the living conditions for the three million soldiers in the fight brought a small army of medical professionals and volunteers into service—in the camps, in hastily erected field hospitals, and in the hospitals, clinics, and homes of towns great and small, north and south. Four years of mortal combat and their aftermath presented a unique laboratory for testing new theories of medicine and public health; provided unprecedented experience for a generation of surgeons; and introduced thousands of women to a calling that (despite daunting obstacles) promised a new path toward the professions.

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

The John K. Lattimer Lecture

#### ***The Civil War: How Did It Impact Medicine in America?***

Ira Rutkow, MD, DrPH, University of Medicine and Dentistry, New Jersey

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

#### **"Of Wards and War": The Importance of Good (and Bad) Medical Care in the American Civil War**

Margaret Humphreys, MD, PhD, Duke University



Thursday, March 15, 2012

***Hired to Care: Civil War Nurses and the Military Body***

Jane E. Schultz, PhD, Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis

For full descriptions of these and other lectures in our public lecture series, please visit us [here](#).

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## COLLECTIONS

### *Albert S. Lyons Papers Open at Mt. Sinai Medical Center*

The Mount Sinai Medical Center Archives has opened the papers of Dr. Albert S. Lyons (1912-2006). This collection will be of interest to scholars in many areas of medical history. A gastric surgeon, Dr. Lyons established the Intestinal Rehabilitation Clinic at The Mount Sinai Hospital and was Clinical Professor of Surgery at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He chaired the Medical Society of the State of New York's Ad-Hoc Committee to Study Professional Medical Liability Insurance. An early advocate of patient self-help, he helped organize a support group for ostomy patients at Mount Sinai, the first such group of its kind, and the United Ostomy Association (UOA), a national umbrella organization. He served for many years as the UOA's Medical Advisor. He was also a historian of medicine who wrote on medical history's relationship to medical education; in 1978 he published *Medicine: An Illustrated History* (New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc.) a lavishly illustrated volume.



His papers contain 13 linear feet of material, including correspondence, project files and the records of various organizations. Approximately half the collection consists of records related to ostomy groups and ostomy care, including the administrative records of the UOA and several regional ostomy clubs. It includes a file of periodicals issued by groups throughout the country that contains near-complete runs of several newsletters; international ostomy groups are also represented, as are publications by vendors of

ostomy-related products and an assortment of other literature on ostomy self-help. A finding aid is available [here](#).

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS / MISCELLANEA

### *Countway Library Fellowship*

The Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine will offer two annual fellowships to support research in the history of medicine. The Countway Library is the largest academic medical library in the United States, and its Center for the History of Medicine holds 250,000 books and journals published before 1920, and is strong in virtually every medical discipline. The Countway's archives and manuscripts include the personal and professional papers of prominent American physicians, many of whom were associated with Harvard Medical School. The printed, manuscript, and archival holdings are complemented by prints, photographs, and the collections of the Warren Anatomical Museum.

The Francis A. Countway Library Fellowships in the History of Medicine provide stipends of up to \$5,000 to support travel, lodging, and incidental expenses for a flexible period between June 1, 2012 and May 31, 2013. Besides conducting research, the fellow will submit a report on the results of his/her residency and may be asked to present a seminar or lecture at the Countway Library. The fellowship proposal should demonstrate that the Countway Library has resources central to the research topic. Preference will be given to applicants who live beyond commuting distance of the Countway.

The application, outlining the proposed project (proposal should not exceed five pages), length of residence, materials to be consulted, and a budget with specific information on travel, lodging, and research expenses, should be submitted, along with a curriculum vitae and two letters of recommendation, by February 1, 2012. Applications should be sent to: Countway Fellowships, Center for the History of Medicine, Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine, 10 Shattuck Street, Boston, MA 02115. The appointment will be announced by March 15, 2012.

The Boston Medical Library's Abel Lawrence Peirson Fund provides support for the fellowship program.

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### *New York Academy of Medicine Offers Fellowships*

Applications are now being accepted for the New York Academy of Medicine's two history of medicine research fellowships. The deadline for the receipt of applications for the 2012-2013 fellowship term is March 6, 2012.

The Paul Klemperer Fellowship in the History of Medicine supports research using the NYAM Library's resources for scholarly study of the history of medicine. It is intended specifically for a scholar in residence at the NYAM Library and supports one month of research in the collections for the period beginning June 1, 2012 and ending May 31, 2013. More information and application forms for the fellowship may be found [here](#).

The Audrey and William H. Helfand Fellowship in the History of Medicine and Public Health supports research using the NYAM Library's resources for scholarly study of the history of medicine and public health. It is intended specifically for a scholar in residence at the NYAM Library and supports one month of research in the collections for the period beginning June 1, 2012 and ending May 31, 2013. While all proposals will be thoroughly considered, preference will be given to applications which include and emphasis on the use of visual materials held in the NYAM collections and elsewhere. More information and application forms for the fellowship may be found [here](#).

Questions about the fellowships may be directed to Arlene Shaner, Acting Curator and Reference Librarian for Historical Collections at [history@nyam.org](mailto:history@nyam.org) or by calling 212-822-7313.

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## *OSU's Prior Health Sciences Library Announces Scholar-in-Residence Program*

The Medical Heritage Center at the Prior Health Sciences Library, The Ohio State University, is seeking applicants for its scholar-in-residence program for a flexible time period between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013.

Founded in 1997 as a partnership effort between the Columbus Medical Association Foundation and The Ohio State University, the Medical Heritage Center collects, preserves, and promotes the rich health sciences history of central Ohio. Part of the institution's mission is to "provide an environment for the academic and clinical communities to study and research meaningful historical records for the education and understanding of the entire health community." The scholar-in-residence program is a key part of this mission.

The Medical Heritage Center maintains a rare book, archival, and artifact collection that speaks to the development of central Ohio's health sciences history. The collection is particularly rich in documenting innovation in the areas of medical education, dentistry, nursing, nuclear medicine, homeopathy, and surgery. The Nathaniel Coleman Rare Book collection contains over 12,000 volumes representing limited edition and one-of-a-kind references and prints dating back to 1555. The scholar will also have access to the rich holdings of The Ohio State University and regional libraries. The Medical Heritage Center's archives currently include papers and memorabilia from regional and nationally recognized institutions, organizations, and luminaries such as William G. Myers, PhD, MD; Arthur G. James, MD; Charles Doan, MD; and Robert Zollinger, MD. The artifacts collection represents medical equipment used as early as the 1800's, and range from those now perceived as quackery to those that were truly innovations at their time.

Suitable potential scholars can come from a variety of backgrounds (e.g. students, clinician historians, PhD historians) and each application will be reviewed based upon the quality of the application and proposed use of historical collections. Preference will be given to scholars whose research is directed toward local or regional medical historic issues. Use of the in-house archival and rare book collections is suggested but not limited to the collections of the Medical Heritage Center. The intent to publish in nationally-known presses and peer-reviewed journals is highly essential. Scholars will be expected to provide a mid-point and final report discussing the progress and result of the residency project. At least one presentation and publication is expected from a successful scholar residency.

The scholar-in-residence program provides a stipend up to \$5,000 to support the activities of the scholar. This funding is provided by the Columbus Medical Association Foundation endowment for the Medical Heritage Center and can cover but is not limited to equipment, travel, support staff, publication costs. Scholars also receive office space, basic office equipment, and extensive access to the collections of the Medical Heritage Center.

An application package should be submitted for consideration by March 30, 2012, and a successful applicant will be decided upon by the Medical Heritage Center advisory committee by April 30, 2012. For more program details, including an application package, please contact Medical Heritage Center Head Curator, Judith Wiener, at 614-292-9273 or <mailto:judith.wiener@osumc.edu>.

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## BOOK REVIEWS

**Michael J. Hyde, *Perfection: Coming to Terms with Being Human* (Waco, Texas: Baylor University Press, 2010)**

This is not a treatise on perfection, but rather a survey of various expressions or exemplifications of perfection in the history of philosophy, religion, art, science, communication, and bioethics. Each of the ten chapters explores a different facet of perfection, broadly conceived and diversely interpreted. Eclectic? Perhaps. Carefully researched and well documented? Yes.

Hyde's series of sketches begins with a conceptual and historical overview of our empirical, phenomenological, and rhetorical encounters with whatever perfection may - or may not - turn out to be. He suggests that any answers to questions about the ontology of perfection ought to weigh input from both science and religion. Chapter 2, "God on a Good Day," considers this religious side, not only rehearsing some of the traditional questions about God's ultimate goodness, otherness, inscrutability, etc., and touching upon the contributions of Augustine, Friedrich Schelling, Cicero, Xenophanes, the Bible, and Kabbalah, but also, in an interesting twist, contemplating the difference

between what is essential and what is absolutely essential for anything's existence. Chapters 3 and 4, "Interpreting the Call" and "The Otherness All Around Us," extend this theme, bringing Socrates, Isaac Luria, Michael Levin, Abraham Lincoln, E.D. Hirsch, Martin Heidegger, and Aristotle into discussions of hermeneutics, phenomenology, semantics, and the criteria of truth.

Chapter 5, "Reason," begins a new tack, tracing the advent of reason in Western culture not to Plato, as is usually done, but to Hippocrates. For Hyde, reason did not become a strong force in the growth of Western civilization until Vesalius, Descartes, Leibniz, and Newton ushered in the Enlightenment, whose main figures included Locke, Adam Smith, and above all, Kant. Yet Hyde does not restrict Enlightenment progress to science, medicine, politics, economics, and philosophy. In a fascinating subsection called "Rhetoric as a Means of Truth," he asserts that late eighteenth and early nineteenth-century authors such as George Campbell, Hugh Blair, and Richard Whately imply a concurrence theory of truth, i.e., a socially conditioned harmony of heart and mind, informed by oratory. Hyde uses Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, which was written in the same era, not only to elucidate the existential impasse between science and humanity, but also to show the monster, who symbolizes this impasse, as embodying no perfection at all, in either heart or mind. The chapter concludes with an assessment of Jürgen Habermas's critique of Kant's theory of communication.

Chapter 6, "Beauty," taking yet another new tack, deals not so much with beauty *per se* as a concept in either art itself or the philosophy of art, but as an avenue for approaching divine or universal truth. Hyde revisits Renaissance ideas of beauty as correlating with the perfections of Euclidian geometry and Pythagorean mathematics in a Platonic or Neo-Platonic universe. He looks at Judaeo-Christian beliefs about creation through the eyes of conservative bioethicist Leon Kass, but introduces Bertrand Russell as a foil, or rather, given how the book proceeds, as a straw man. He presents evolutionary theory through Charles Darwin and Richard Dawkins and depicts Leonardo da Vinci as having accomplished the ultimate in human creation, the fusion of science and art.

Despite Hyde's erudition, there are a few rather odd lapses. For example, he devotes his entire Chapter 7 to "The Lived Body" without once mentioning Maurice Merleau-Ponty or Edmund Husserl, which is a bit like discussing the history of rock 'n' roll without mentioning Elvis Presley or the Beatles.



Chapter 8, "The Good Life, the Good Death," concerns the tragic Terri Schiavo case that played out bitterly for fifteen years until her death in 2005. Referencing philosophers as different as the jovial atheist David Hume and the neurotic Christian Søren Kierkegaard, Hyde shows how both sides - which we might oversimplify as the "right-to-life" and the "right-to-die" camps - evoked notions of divine and human perfection in their respective polemics. The former identified perfection with aspects of divinity, including human life itself as a gift from God, while the latter equated human perfection, so far as possible, with self-determination, dignity, and conscious personhood.

Chapter 9, "The Biotechnology Debate," concentrates on the overwhelming scientific and lagging ethical developments of the last two decades. Hyde's earlier analysis of *Frankenstein* is implicit and poignant throughout this chapter, particularly during his discussion of Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* (1932), toward whose shallow, streamlined, unspiritual future he fears our world might be heading. Again citing Kass, Hyde argues that our human dignity is because of, not in spite of, our natural imperfection.

The final chapter, "On Being an Oxymoron," juxtaposes Daniel Dennett, a secular defender of science, with Kass, who adopts a more holistic and religious approach to humanity and its problems of self-identity. Hyde ends with a 20-page analysis of the 1997 Jack Nicholson film, *As Good as It Gets*, using it to illustrate that the social or spiritual redemption, i.e., the steps toward perfection, of any human, even an exceedingly nasty one like Nicholson's character, Melvin, can only be achieved through openness to others and respect for the otherness of others, even if such respect is grudging and confrontational.

An unkind but plausible reading might regard the apparent disconnects among and within the chapters as abrupt leaps or even a curious mixture of *non sequiturs*. A more generous reading would see Hyde's transitions as often surprising, but not without a certain logic that reveals a comprehensive, multilateral, but not necessarily deep grasp of the issues at hand. Unless readers of either sort take the extra trouble to try to understand this logic, they are likely to say of the book as a whole, "What's the point?" Rather than a unifying theme among these ten essays, perfection seems to be only a loose thread. With the exception of the historical/theological discussion in Chapter 2, Hyde's topic is not perfection in the classic philosophical sense of *summum bonum*, *ens realissimum*, or *Vollkommenheit*, and his goal seems less lofty than those of Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, Leibniz, or Hegel. Moreover, readers are at pains to discern just what

Hyde's view of perfection is. His subtitle better describes the actual content of the book, namely, possible keys to the amelioration of the human being and the human spirit through culture, introspection, public policy, and bioethics.

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**Sander L. Gilman, *A Cultural History of Obesity* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2008)**

Amidst the current climate of public health concerns regarding obesity, Professor Sander Gilman provides a cultural perspective on this contemporary issue. Gilman begins by discussing the obesity epidemic from a Western, U.S.-centric cultural perspective and does not stray far from this, except for a final chapter about obesity in China. Gilman notes that each culture, tradition, and time period has defined what is an acceptable weight, and conversely, what is unacceptable, unhealthy, or “corrupting” (p. 3). Gilman introduces the term “moral panic” and its impact in relation to the obesity epidemic. In his introduction, Gilman posits that dieting and the health of the individual is linked to the health of the nation, as healthy people are better citizens. He explains that in Western culture, a healthy weight reflects wealth, health, and moral superiority, whereas fatness and obesity signal a lack of will, a diseased body, and one who is socially ostracized. He also points out that obesity has trumped smoking as the 21st century’s number one public health concern.

Gilman states, “Obesity is not itself a ‘disease’ but rather a phenomenological category which reflects the visible manifestation of bodily size” (p.18). As he continues, “No one dies from obesity.” However, individuals can and do die from diseases that have a direct relation to being overweight. For instance, with obesity comes increased risk of developing diabetes and vascular disease. Gilman situates the obesity epidemic terminology in relation to other epidemic outbreaks such as the 1918 flu epidemic, and touches on the fears associated with potential epidemics like SARS and avian flu. He introduces terms such as “globesity” and “infectobesity” to associate the rise of moral

panic of the obesity epidemic in comparison to the hysteria associated with the pandemic status of influenza outbreaks.

Gilman begins by focusing on epidemic obesity and discussing how children are at risk and the public health concerns associated with obesity. Interestingly, Gilman notes, applying the term “epidemic” suggests the contagiousness of obesity. With this comes fear as with other infectious diseases. We want to know what causes obesity. What type of contagion is it? How does it spread? Where does it originate? Most importantly, what is the magic bullet to fix it?

Gilman places obesity in a historical and cultural context largely through examples of obese individuals in literature. One chapter focuses on childhood obesity through an analysis of the character Joe in Charles Dickens’s *Pickwick Papers* (1836). Gilman describes how Joe, the “fat boy,” became the case study used in medical literature for decades following the publication of *Pickwick Papers*, determining and comparing a range of disorders with obesity. Although medical literature discussed the issue of childhood obesity, there was still a cultural stigma of children being too thin, and Gilman rightly explains that malnutrition in children remained a strong concern up to the 20th century. Gilman again uses literature to situate obesity in a cultural context by describing William Banting and his *Letter on Corpulence Addressed to the Public* (1863), along with Shakespeare’s Sir John Falstaff, and the opera *Falstaff* by Giuseppe Verdi. Through such examinations, Gilman illustrates how the shame associated with obesity can be traced to the 19th century when fatness began to be seen as something that needed to be cured and marketing this “cure” emerged.

Gilman goes on to discuss obesity as an ethnic problem, explaining that “the moral panic about obesity is not only a reaction to waist size, it is part of a discourse on race that surfaced in the nineteenth century, shaping the very manner by which obesity is understood” (p. 102). Gilman describes in detail the correlations that were made between Jewish people of the 19th century and diseased bodies, and examines the stigma of diabetes being a Jewish disease. Throughout the book, Gilman points out stark dichotomies: obese vs. thin, healthy vs. diseased, good citizens vs. morally corrupt persons, Jews vs. Christians, and so on. Gilman also discusses the American South and its themes and stereotypes related to obesity, focusing specifically on differences in bodily descriptions from *Gone with the Wind* (1936) through *A Confederacy of Dunces* (1980).

Although most of Gilman's book focuses on the Western context of obesity, his final chapter discusses obesity in China, returning to the concept of what is culturally approved as the preferred body type. In classical Chinese medical literature, a rotund body was viewed as ideal. However, in recent times, obesity has become an increasing threat in China, representing, he says, corruption by the West through urbanization and the influence of modernization. At one point, Gilman notes that "obesity is not a disease but a failure of will due to the pressures of modern life" (p. 102). Is the U.S., or Western culture, to blame for global obesity? Could our work culture, food habits, and lack of physical activity be that contagious?

Gilman's work will be of interest to those curious about this topic from a cultural studies or literary analysis perspective. This reviewer was hoping for more historical detail, especially about non-U.S. cultures, along with greater discussion of topics such as eating disorders and malnutrition in relation to obesity. That said, Gilman does provide a cultural context for a topic that has global implications.

**Rachel Ingold**

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**Howard Markel, *An Anatomy of Addiction: Sigmund Freud, William Halsted, and the Miracle Drug Cocaine* (New York: Pantheon, 2011)**

Markel, Howard, *An Anatomy of Addiction: Sigmund Freud, William Halsted, and the Miracle Drug Cocaine* (New York: Pantheon, 2011) ISBN-13: 978-0375423307, \$28.95

Howard Markel's new book is advertised as a double biography, but there are actually three characters whose life stories it traces: Sigmund Freud, William Halsted, and the drug cocaine itself. Each went through a considerable period of turmoil during the late 19th-early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, and not one came out as he went in.

The story of Freud's dalliance with cocaine is reasonably well known, and has been explored (one might say exploited) several times, both in fiction and non-fictional works. Starting with Nicholas Meyers's *The Seven Percent Solution*, published as a best-selling

novel in 1974 and released as a successful film two years later, Freud is portrayed as the man who beat his addiction by sheer force of will and a bit of hypnotism. Freud (played in the film by Alan Arkin) is just the man to help Sherlock Holmes defeat his drug-induced paranoia. On a more serious level, there was Jeffrey Mousaieff Masson's controversial book, *The Assault on Truth* (1984) and his later translation of Freud's correspondence with colleague and fellow addict Wilhelm Fleiss (1985) to stir the pot about Freud's addiction. Janet Malcolm's *New Yorker* articles, later expanded into a book, *In The Freud Archives* (1984) launched lawsuits that dragged on for a decade, and gave the lay public a remarkable look inside the "peaceful" groves of academe.

Halsted's story is less popularly known, but certainly no secret anymore. Sherwin Nuland's classic chapter on Halsted in *Doctors: the Biography of Medicine* (1988) is very forthright on the subject of the famous surgeon's addictions to morphine and cocaine, and Michael Bliss, in his 1999 biography of Sir William Osler (*William Osler: a life in medicine*, 1999), muses at length on the effects of Halsted's addictions on his colleagues as well as his patients.

Markel's contribution to the literature is a bright, almost breezy account of what one could almost call the cocaine gestalt: how the "harmless" drug proved to be anything but, and how the lives of two great physicians were steered for decades by addiction and attempts at recovery at a time when cocaine was fashionable and usually quite legal. There are many illustrations included in the text (not segregated into a separate glossy section) and there are as many casual snapshots as formal portraits. It's a "fun" read.

If there is a bone to pick with Markel, it has to do with his characterization of the relationship of George Davis (of Parke Davis, a company that produced pharmaceuticals containing cocaine) and the *Index Medicus*. On p.64, he says that "For a brief period, beginning in 1885, Davis went as far as to take control of the publication of *Index Medicus*. ..." Markel then says on the following page that "one pharmaceutical company controlling and publishing one of the dominant indexes of the world's medical literature constitutes a definite conflict of interest."

It is no secret Davis (though not Parke Davis) became the publisher of IM after the death of the original publisher, Frederick Leyboldt. But it has long been understood that, although *Index Medicus* was not a government publication, it was prepared from citations gathered for the *Index Catalogue*, which was a government publication (as Markel duly notes), and that the journals used for *Index Medicus* were vetted by John

Shaw Billings and his staff at the Surgeon-General's Library. Once a journal made it onto Billings's list, it was indexed cover-to-cover. Articles from journals not on the vetted IM list were not included. This practice continues today with NLM's Literature Selection and Technical Review Committee (LSTRC), which meets three times a year to advise NLM on what journals to index. The *Index Catalogue* used a different selection process, but the overlap between IM and the *Index Catalogue* citations for this period is very high. So, the question is: does Markel believe that Davis actually skewed the citations in the *Index Medicus*, or that he could have if he wished to?

I wrote to Markel on this point, and we had a brief email exchange. Basically, he is concerned about the *appearance* of impropriety, even if none actually took place. I am not convinced that his concerns are well expressed (after all, evidence to the contrary is easily available), but it is certainly an artifact of a very different era. But this should not detract from the overall appeal of this book, especially to a lay audience unfamiliar with the strange role of cocaine in the history of medicine.

**Stephen Greenberg**

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