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# THE WATERMARK

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

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>EDITOR'S MESSAGE .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>FROM THE PRESIDENT .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2012 ANNUAL MEETING, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, APRIL 25-26 .....</b>	<b>6</b>
Presentations      6	
Surveying Videotape Collections and Prioritizing for Reformatting      6	
Member Updates   11	
Was there an African-American Physician at the Massachusetts General Hospital in 1850? The Case for – and Against – Peter W. Ray      11	
Glass Eyeballs Need a Lot of Bubble Wrap: Moving the History of Medicine Collections at Duke      12	
Centennial Stories: Celebrating a Milestone at the American College of Surgeons      13	
Update from the Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives, The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions      15	
Photo Section      17	
Business Meeting   19	
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting      19	
ALHHS 2011-2012 Financial Report      23	
2012 ALHHS Awards      24	
<b>NEWS FROM THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE .....</b>	<b>26</b>
NLM & National Endowment for the Humanities to Cooperate on Initiatives of Common Interest      26	
Exhibition Program      27	
HMD Expands Digital Oral History Collections      27	
Medical Heritage Library Project      28	
Update on <i>Hidden Treasure: The National Library of Medicine</i> 28	
<b>NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME LIBRARY .....</b>	<b>29</b>
New appointment      29	
British Health posters      29	
Creating an online archive catalogue      30	
Papers on the History of Thalidomide      31	
<b>NEW MEMBER PROFILES .....</b>	<b>33</b>
Drew Bourn      33	
Marisa Shaari      33	
<b>COLLECTIONS .....</b>	<b>34</b>
Dept. of Community Medicine Records Open at Mount Sinai Medical Center      34	
Massachusetts General Hospital Museum Opens in Boston      35	
<b>MILESTONES .....</b>	<b>35</b>
Senior Navy Medical Historian Retires      35	
CHFM Announces Joint Winners of Annual History of Family Medicine Fellowship      36	

**ANNOUNCEMENTS..... 38**

Call for Papers: SAHMS Fifteenth Annual Meeting February 21-23, 2013, Charleston, SC 38

**BOOK REVIEWS ..... 38**

Tonse N.K. Raju, *The Importance of Having a Brain: Tales from the History of Medicine* 38

Howard Padwa. *Social Poison: The Culture and Politics of Opiate Control in Britain and France* 40

Michele L. Clouse. *Medicine, Government and Public Health in Philip II's Spain: Shared Interests, Competing Authorities* 41

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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: Paddleboats in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Photo by Megan Curran.

**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

Summer's upon us and the Annual Meeting in Baltimore this past April is no doubt already a distant memory for most of us, busy as we are with the press of daily duties. I hope this issue will revive memories of the meeting for those of us who were lucky enough to attend and give an idea of what it was like for members who couldn't make it.

This issue does not include all the papers presented in Baltimore. One of our main speakers never responded to my requests for his paper – though I'm pleased to include our other main presentation, Sarah Stauderman's informative talk on preservation surveys for video collections. Also, the general opinion among meeting attendees was that some of the shorter presentations deserved fuller treatment. I hope to publish them as feature articles in future issues of *The Watermark*.

Since the last issue Stephen Greenberg, our long-time book review editor, has stepped down. Stephen's untiring efforts in obtaining both books and reviewers revived the book review section of *The Watermark*. We will miss him. I am happy to welcome his successor, Pat Gallagher, who I'm sure will continue Stephen's excellent work. Keep cool and enjoy your summer!

**Stephen Novak**  
Editor

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

**FROM THE PRESIDENT****What's the Point?**

Greetings. I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. It has been rather hot in Montreal lately in more ways than one, although the protests and riots are not about hockey this time. While preparing to begin my term as ALHHS President I contemplated the purpose of our organisation. Isaiah Berlin wrote an essay about Tolstoy in 1953 entitled "The Hedgehog and the Fox," in which he divided writers and others into two categories: hedgehogs, whose perspective is shaped by a central idea or system; and foxes, which are fascinated by a variety of things. I admit that my tendency is very much hedgehogian, if that's a word, due perhaps to my Catholic upbringing. So, in thinking about just what the purpose of ALHHS was, I was pleasantly surprised to discover its *raison d'être* clearly stated on the



home page of our website (and embarrassed not to have remembered it). Right underneath our attractive watermark-like symbol is the statement that “this Association is established exclusively for educational purposes to serve the professional interests of librarians, archivists, and other specialists actively engaged in the librarianship of the history of the health sciences by promoting the exchange of information and by improving standards of service” ([www.alhhs.org](http://www.alhhs.org)).

There are several ways in which we carry out this pedagogical mission. One is *The Watermark*, a substantial quarterly publication which is so wonderfully done by Stephen Novak, Martha Stone, Megan Curran, Stephen Greenberg, his successor Patricia Gallagher, and Jonathon Erlen. I know from firsthand experience just how much work goes into this, so let me express my deeply felt appreciation to all of you for your commitment. The second major way is the Annual Meeting. This is one of the highlights of my year, for not only are the talks stimulating and useful (I have stolen several good ideas and used them at the Osler with good results), but it is equally important as a venue for making personal and professional connections. Now to me, the term networking can have a slightly distasteful connotation of meeting people purely for selfish reasons, but for me the annual meeting has been a great opportunity to get to know a number of interesting people who have experience and expertise and who have been generous in sharing this with me. I can't think of any other way in which a neophyte such as I was when I went to my first ALHHS meeting in Halifax in 2006 could have made such valuable professional friendships with so many leaders and interesting people in our field, whom I have been calling ever since. In turn I have been happy to help whomever I could, either individually or collectively through work in the organisation. Thanks go to Rachel Ingold and Michael North for taking care of local arrangements and programming for our upcoming meeting in Atlanta.

Two other perhaps less obvious but also very useful conduits of information are the website and the listserv, both ably developed and maintained by Russell Johnson. The website is something of a gold mine of information, including back issues of *The Watermark* and the wonderful new addition of posting recent announcements, making it worthwhile to visit the site frequently. The listserv is a valuable way to communicate about new resources and events, but it has also been used as a way to share ideas or get help by members faced with confounding issues. One relatively recent example which comes to mind that illustrates this nicely was when Jennifer Miglus of the Hartford Medical Society Historical Library wrote for help in dealing with a situation with which I suspect many of us have confronted: how to increase usage of a highly specialised collection. As a new librarian running a one-person shop, the ALHHS listserv became her mode of tapping into the collective wisdom of her professional community. She later wrote that her self-described plea for help was answered both quickly and supportively (see “[Silence](#),” *The Watermark*, Volume XXXIII, 4 (Fall 2010)).

Former ALHHS President Lisa Mix was fond of reminding members that it was their organisation, and this is a message which I want to repeat. Please do take advantage of our tools to develop professionally: attend and give presentations at the Annual Meeting; submit material to the *The Watermark* and the listserv; and communicate with your colleagues via the listserv. I would also ask you to consider new ways in which ALHHS can serve you, or ways in which our current activities can work better. One idea I've had was to explore setting up a mentoring programme. I joined the one for members of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of ACRL when I started out in this business and found it very helpful. I would love to know if something similar would be useful for our members.

Feel free to contact me at any time.

Have a wonderful summer.

**Chris Lyons**

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Osler Library of the History of Medicine

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[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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

### *Presentations*

#### **Surveying Videotape Collections and Prioritizing for Reformatting**

Surveys are an important tool for understanding the condition of collections. When a survey is performed on videotape collections, the surveyor becomes more familiar with the nature and content of the collection. Over the past decade a host of tools have been developed by cultural institutions to review audiovisual collections. The tools are online, free, and usually fairly easy to implement. Methodologies change from survey to survey, based on survey philosophies (such as utilizing random sample surveys or incorporating "value" as a survey element). For an overview on the subject of surveys for audiovisual collections, readers are encouraged to [read \*Survey of the State of Audio Collections in Academic Libraries\*](#).

This list of surveys represents online resources available in June 2012:

**Sound Savings** by Stanford University Libraries (2003)

- Hannah Frost summarizes the issues surrounding surveys in *Surveying Sound Recording Collections*, from a symposium on audiovisual collections sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries.
- Table of Survey Data Elements

**CALIPR** by California Preservation Program (2007)

- For paper-based or AV collections
- Online database tool
- Random samples
- Creates “management reports”

**AVDb** by Columbia University Libraries (2008)

- Item-level, weighted
- Incorporates intellectual value (curator input)
- No playback component
- Well documented
- Downloadable Microsoft Access tool
- 

**Sound Directions: Field Audio Collection Evaluation Tool [FACET]** by Indiana University Library (2008)

- Audio only (intended for field recordings)
- Item-level, not weighted
- No curator input, playback components
- Well documented
- Easy to break down and sort collections to facilitate analysis
- Downloadable Microsoft Access tool
- 

**ViPIRS Visual & Playback Inspection Ratings System** by New York University Libraries (2008/9)

- Audio and video tapes
- Item-level, weighted
- Includes playback component
- Well-documented
- Downloadable Microsoft Access tool

**AvSAP** by University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Libraries (2010)

- For AV collections
- Online database tool or host-your-own SQL DB
- Item-level or random samples
- Evaluate repository and storage environments and item format, access, value
- Approximately 15 multiple-choice questions per format

- In-depth “pop-up” tutorial
- requires registration

A limiting factor for preservation priority surveys with videotape is that there are few meaningful diagnostic data points that indicate deterioration. For instance, with surveys of paper-based materials, acidity is a material feature that might indicate fragility or deterioration. With videotapes (magnetic media) there is no strict correlation between the physical condition and playability of the tape. Over the years, several factors have been thought to contribute to deterioration in tapes<sup>1</sup> such as dust or dirt on container or on item; wind of the cassette (popping or spoking); the presence or absence of record tab (housekeeping); anecdotal evidence that a tape brand is poor quality or aging rapidly; degree of information on label; and storage history. In all of these cases, however, research has not been able to demonstrate visual inspection as a clear indicator of damage<sup>2</sup>.

In the category of playback, collections managers are cautioned that tapes reviewed for damage via playback is a risky activity. Playback issues such as skew, tracking, and balance, may or may not be a cause of deterioration, whereas the presence of dropouts and tapes sticking or freezing in tape players are almost certainly an indication of decay. A tape that is frozen in a tape machine is certainly now damaged, and possibly unplayable from that point forward. Some aging tapes can tolerate viewing only once before they are no longer playable; in addition, the playback of damaged tapes with “sticky shed” (deteriorated binder) can damage video decks that are also fragile and rare.



**Keynote Speaker Sarah Stauderman**

More issues with regard to identifying risk with videotapes is that the tape age is frequently unknown even when the recording date of the content is known (tapes may not have been recorded for years before use or tapes may be recorded over); and that tape formulations are proprietary and shift both positively and negatively in time. Finally, other features such as “value,” “obsolescence” of the tape<sup>3</sup>, and the

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<sup>1</sup> Bogart, John Van (1995) [Magnetic Tape Storage and Handling: A Guide for Libraries and Archives](#), accessed June 11, 2012

<sup>2</sup> Bigourdan, Jean-Louis, et.al., (2006) “The Preservation of Magnetic Tape Collections: A Perspective” final report to NEH Division of Preservation and Access NEH Grant #PA-50123-03

<sup>3</sup>Stauderman, Sarah and Paul Messier (1999 to present) [Video Format Identification Guide](#), accessed June 11, 2012



desirability or “use” of the tape should be considered as much as tape deterioration in determining priorities.

Knowing that the preservation of videotapes entails encoding the tapes into digital files<sup>4</sup>, which is a lengthy and costly undertaking, conducting a risk assessment to prioritize is an important strategic initiative for collections managers.

A survey tool -- first described in use by Dianne van der Reyden and Fei Wen Tsai in “An ‘Angels Project’ of Dinosaur Proportions”<sup>5</sup> -- was repurposed for audiovisual collections by the author. The tool was based on an unpublished preservation priority matrix (for paper based materials) of a working group of the Society of American Archivists from the early 1990s. The redeveloped tool emphasizes intellectual control and obsolescence of tapes. The *Preservation Priority for Videotape Collections* survey can be found [here](#).

First, the collection should be identified (Part I). Content must be determined prior to embarking on a survey. Otherwise, effort will be made on a collection with no known value or use to researchers. The form may be used for discrete collections of videotape within larger magnetic media collections’ series or collections’ name.

Second, the collection should undergo a value assessment (Part II). Request that colleagues and stakeholders fill in value about collections and average the data. It is key that not all collections receive a high value; it is important that questions of “value” and their answers are as objective as possible. “Value” (intrinsic, inherent, monetary, etc) is a charged notion in the cultural heritage field, but for the purposes of the exercise it is useful to challenge and document the questions about a collection’s value<sup>6</sup>. As an example, a “research value rating” is employed by the Archivists Toolkit to inform collections managers about value as they process collections<sup>7</sup>:

**Research Value Rating (RVR) (low = 1 high = 5)**

- How unique is the documentation contained within this collection?
- How extensive/complete is this documentation?
- How deep or detailed is this collection?
- To what extent are emerging research trends or agendas addressed or documented in this collection?

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<sup>4</sup> Blood, George (2012) [Refining Conversion Contract Specifications: Determining Suitable Digital Video Formats for Medium-Term Storage](#) accessed June 11, 2012

<sup>5</sup> <http://aic.stanford.edu/sg/bpg/annual/v15/bp15-18.html> accessed June 19, 2012

<sup>6</sup> Conway, Martha O’Hara and Merrilee Profitt (2011) [Taking Stock and Making Hay: Archival Collections Assessment](#) accessed June 11, 2012

<sup>7</sup> [The Archivists’ Toolkit™](#), or the AT, is the first open source archival data management system to provide broad, integrated support for the management of archives. Accessed June 11, 2012

For this survey, the fundamental questions regarding value state that, first, “determine what role this collection has to the Mission and Collections Policy of the Institution. If there is no collections policy regarding videotape collections, defer action until a collections policy for videotapes is addressed.” Each question of the value section should be prefaced with “Do the videotapes relate to the Mission Statement and Collections Policy of the Institution in terms of...”:

- The topics that are being documented: That is, what is your mission and does the theme of the video collection fit it?
- The Stated Purpose: What is your mission and does the overall collection fit into your mission (for instance, is your purpose to preserve videotapes or not)?
- The Institution’s Users: Does the research value of this collection fit into your mission?
- The general and specific functions and topics: Do the multiple functions (for example, records management, special collections, preservation, and reference services; is there a special or specific function such as academic support) of your repository have places for this videotape collection?
- The relationship of the repository goals to other repositories: is this institution the best location as per the mission of your institution, for this topic/content/format, or are there other repositories that are better for this topic/content/format?
- The relationship of the known world of related documentation to the functions and topics: does this collection add value to all archival collections with similar topics/contents/ formats in the world; for instance: is your repository better with moving image, but another better with paper?

Once these questions have been answered with “yes,” “somewhat” or “no,” additional questions regarding the repository’s “rights” to reproduce or ability to do so round out the value section.

Part III is the Risk Assessment. In this survey, risk is a combination of condition and an “obsolescence” factor. Two elements make up condition: the degree of stability of the magnetic media carrier (based on the knowledge of materials that go into the magnetic media and deterioration characteristics), and the degree of damage observed, such as poor quality wind of the tape pack. Obsolescence is a mathematical formula devised to score the majority of items for their relative age and rarity. For instance, a 1980s U-matic tape is less obsolete than a ½” EIAJ Reel to Reel videotape from the 1970s. When condition and obsolescence scores are combined they form the overall risk score.

In Part IV, the risk score and the value score are combined to rank the collection’s priority for reformatting. Adjustments can be made along the way to tweak an upward or downward priority. After several collections are surveyed, trends begin to be seen.

Ultimately, funding needs and subsequent grant proposals, will emerge from these valuable surveys.

The use of metrics to obtain a score is one novelty of this tool, but the real purpose of the tool is to ask probing questions about a collection. In doing the survey, one becomes intimately familiar with a collection. Details about a collection, including its intellectual content, and physical nature become part of the archivist's knowledge. Through a survey exercise, archivists are self-educated on the media that is a source of frustration and opacity for many collection managers. Eventually, magnetic media becomes as well-understood and well-regarded as its partners in collections such as paper manuscripts.

*The author would like to thank the following for their contributions to this presentation:*

- *Dianne Van Der Reyden and Fei Wen Tsai, former paper conservators at the Conservation Analytical Laboratory/SCMRE at the Smithsonian Institution*
- *Paul Messier and the Electronic Media Group of the American Institute for Conservation*
- *Hannah Frost, Stanford University Library*
- *Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts*
- *Smithsonian Institution Archives staff*
- *Colleagues who have participated in hundreds of conversations about prioritization and preservation metrics*

**Sarah Stauderman**

Collections Care Manager, Smithsonian Institution Archives

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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## *Member Updates*

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

One of the departments whose history I helped research during MGH's bicentennial last year was the Multicultural Affairs Office, which was planning a presentation about underrepresented minority physicians and scientists. Peter W. Ray, a physician of mixed race origins, "spent some time at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, where he held the position of assistant and dresser to Surgeon Parkman, in his ward of the hospital" stated Martin Delany, in *The Condition, Elevation, Emigration, and Destiny of the Colored People of the United States. Politically Considered* (1852).

According to records at Castleton Medical College in Vermont, Ray graduated on June 19, 1850. My attempts to verify Delany's statement of MGH employment and reconcile Ray's graduation date with his appearance in the New York census of August 7, 1850, led to this still on-going research.

**Martha E. Stone, M.S., AHIP**

Coordinator for Reference Services

Treadwell Library

Massachusetts General Hospital

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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## **Glass Eyeballs Need a Lot of Bubble Wrap: Moving the History of Medicine Collections at Duke**

The History of Medicine Collections at Duke University relocated in the summer of 2011 from the Duke Medical Center Library to the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library located on Duke's main campus. Several factors precipitated this move, which has brought about many new opportunities. The History of Medicine Collections include over 20,000 rare books and over 4,000 manuscripts, as well as a large collection of historical medical instruments and artifacts, photographs, prints, and other types of ephemera. Preparing for the move involved finding a suitable moving company that would be able to handle this unique collection of materials. A variety of staff from Duke's Medical Center Library, Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, and main campus library played



crucial roles in the move. Staff in departments ranging from Conservation to Cataloging participated and ensured that the move was successful. Tasks ranged from scanning every barcode in order to update the catalog and reflect new location codes to conducting a Conservation assessment in order to provide protective enclosures for items before they were moved. Numerous staff participated in multiple projects throughout the move process.

This move has presented the opportunity for the History of Medicine Collections to reside with other complementary materials in the Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, which also houses a women's history and culture archive, an advertising archive, an archive for African and African American history and culture, a human rights

archive, a documentary arts archive, and materials from other collecting areas. Researchers now have access to the History of Medicine for longer hours, including Saturdays. By being located on Duke's main campus, the Collections are more accessible to undergraduates and graduate students, while relationships and instruction are maintained with Duke's medical school and medical center campus, library and archives. The History of Medicine Collections are also able to utilize the services of the main campus library's Conservation Department and Digital Production Center.

Although the physical move took one week, preparations and communication about the move began months in advance. The one-year anniversary of the History of Medicine's new location is quickly approaching, and communication about the move and all that the Collections have to offer remains key.

**Rachel Ingold**

Curator, History of Medicine Collections

Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

Duke University

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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**Centennial Stories: Celebrating a Milestone at the American College of Surgeons**

In the process of making a time line of centennial-related initiatives and planning activities in my capacity as archivist at the American College of Surgeons, I began to realize that changes in staff responsibility for our Centennial, and lack of communication about it, have been some of the greatest stumbling blocks for me. I had felt frustrated at what I regarded as a lack of direction for what I should be doing in preparation for the centennial, in spite of my consulting with Dr. C. Rollins Hanlon, Executive Consultant to the ACS Director, as early as 2006 about it. When Joan Klein mentioned during a tour of the ACS Archives at the SAA conference in Chicago in August 2007, that one couldn't do both a digitization project and preparation for a major anniversary at the same time, I felt a vacuum where there should have been clarity on who was in charge of the centennial.

After then-executive director Thomas Russell agreed that planning should begin on a centennial history, Dr. Hanlon enlisted the advice in mid-2007 of Robert Remini, noted historian of the U.S. House of Representatives and an emeritus professor of American History at the University of Illinois. Professor Remini advised succinctly that there should be only one author of the centennial history, reporting to one manager, that we should avoid supervisory committees, and that we start promptly. None of these things happened.



In June of 2008, the Committee on the centennial history proposed that a separate committee be established to discuss the centennial itself. Such a committee was appointed, made up of at least one staff member from every Division, by the new executive director in April 2010. I presented my ideas at a subcommittee meeting in November 2010, but it has been only in very recent months that they have been addressed. This is owing entirely to the problem of the change in executive personnel and lack of communication on who has been responsible for what.

*Nevertheless*, some of my ideas from several years ago are coming to fruition: the executive director is taking control of the process with great enthusiasm, sparing little cost for what he intends will be an unforgettable celebration; a new strategic plan mandated by him for the archives has resulted in completion of projects that were languishing and will be of great use in the celebration; AND, we will have another year to work on preparations, since we are celebrating the centennial year at our Clinical Congresses in both October 2012 and October 2013.

Meanwhile, for those who are looking forward to a big anniversary celebration here are some LESSONS LEARNED:

- 1) You cannot anticipate administrative changes and how that may affect plans
- 2) Try to learn which administrative entity will be making critical decisions, but...
- 3) Reduce expectations: do not expect other entities to have similar ideas to yours; expect confusion and no one knowing what anyone else is doing and who's in charge
- 4) Continue plodding away at marketing, reducing backlog, improving access.....
- 5) *Images, images, images!!!*
- 6) Network with staff and look for allies; attend all staff events to increase visibility of archives
- 7) Volunteer to manage tours of your building, not just archives, so you can accentuate archives in your tours
- 8) Do what you love to do and try to figure out what your administration thinks is most important, if not given guidance
- 9) Be neat and tidy and prepared for unannounced visits!!!

**Susan Rishworth**

Archivist

American College of Surgeons

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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## **Update from the Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives, The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions**

Over the past few years there has been an upsurge in accessions of records documenting patient care and human subject research within the health entities of Johns Hopkins. Accessions have ranged from logbooks, diagnostic indexes, case files of physicians, patient records of clinics and departments to records of clinical trials, biomedical photographic and moving image collections, and other assorted data and documentation. In addition, accessions of personal paper collections of physicians have included correspondence files with patients and their families.

To date the largest accessions of patient data and documentation are as follows:

- Unit Medical Records of the Brady Urological Institute – The size of the collection is 490 cubic feet; it includes over 68,000 patient records from 1915-1972. There is both a diagnostic and patient name index to facilitate access and retrieval of specific records.
- Autopsy Records of The Johns Hopkins Hospital – The size of the collection is 308 cubic feet; it includes records of all autopsies conducted at The Johns Hopkins from the opening of the hospital in 1889 through 2009. In addition to the individual autopsy records there are also various diagnostic indices as well as sets of case summaries.

There has been ongoing advocacy within the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions for the preservation of patient-related documentation so that these materials may be made available for ongoing health care studies as well as research in other disciplines. In our ongoing efforts to make the availability of these collections of patient data and documentation more widely known we are planning to prepare and release finding aids for these collections on our website. Julie Adamo, an Associate Fellow of the National Library of Medicine for 2010-2012, has been helping to spearhead this effort. For the second year of her fellowship she has chosen to concentrate on the study of patient data and documentation in the Medical Archives. As part of her project she is preparing finding aids for the Unit Medical Records of the Brady Urological Institute, the Autopsy Records of The Johns Hopkins Hospital, and Series XV - the patient correspondence series of the [Adolf Meyer Collection](#). She is developing a model of finding aid description for patient records that is in compliance with requirements of the HIPAA Privacy Rule. It promises to be a useful model for our staff to follow as well as an example for other archivists in the health fields.

Whereas the HIPAA Privacy Rule allows unprecedented opportunities for the research of patient data and documentation, it requires that covered entities put a legally compliant



**Nancy McCall, Johns Hopkins**

administrative apparatus in place to adjudicate applications for research of these materials. The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions established a Privacy Board in 2003 when the HIPAA Privacy Rule requirements went into effect. Since 2003 the Privacy Board of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions has issued Waivers of Authorization to researchers requesting access to collections in the Medical Archives with patient data and documentation. Many of the studies undertaken have already been published or will soon be released. As part of her fellowship project Julie Adamo is also assessing the body of applications submitted to the Privacy Board. In June 2012 she presented an overview of her fellowship project at the National Library of Medicine and will be releasing the findings of this project after the conclusion of her fellowship in August 2012. Our staff and I are most grateful to have had the opportunity to work with Julie over this past year and greatly appreciate her help in advancing the description of patient-related materials in the Medical Archives.

In concluding, I am pleased to note that the following three individuals who conducted research in patient collections in the Medical Archives were in Baltimore to present papers at the 2012 AAHM meeting:

**SANDRA EDER**, *University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland*

"A Recording Instrument of Uncertain and Variable Powers." Marginality and the Modern Patient Record

**SUSAN LAMB**, *McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada*

"Freud has Opened the Eyes of the Physician": Adolf Meyer's Importation and Appropriation of Psychoanalysis at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, 1913-1917

**MIRIAM REUMANN**, *University of Rhode Island, Kingston RI, USA*

"Nothing More Than a Normal Boy": Sex, Science, and Johns Hopkins Medical Students in the 1920s

I hope to provide further updates about the finding aids to our patient records collections and also the scope of publications based on research of Johns Hopkins patient records collections in the Medical Archives.

**Nancy McCall**

Archivist

The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

*Photo Section***All Photos by Steve Greenberg**

*Photos from left to right: 2012 ALHHS Steering Committee Meeting – back row: Rachel Ingold, Christopher Lyons, Melissa Grafe, Stephen Novak, Arlene Shaner, Lisa Mix, Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, Megan Curran, Nancy McCall, Stephen Greenberg front row: Phoebe Evans Letocha, Jennifer Nieves, Martha Stone, Lucretia McClure, Crystal Smith, John Hellebrand, Patricia Gallagher; Keynote Speaker Riccardo Ferrante ; ALHHS Incoming President Christopher Lyons and Lisa Mix; Next page from left to right: ALHHS annual dinner; ALHHS Outgoing President Stephen Greenberg; Micaela Sullivan-Fowler; Rachel Ingold; Jeffrey Reznick; Susan Rishworth.*





[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)



## *Business Meeting*

### **Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting**

**Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences. Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD April 26, 2012**

**ALHHS President S. Greenberg** opened the meeting by asking for a vote to approve the minutes of last year's meeting in Philadelphia, but first called for changes/corrections. Incoming President-elect, Christopher Lyons, pointed out an error in last year's minutes, which everyone acknowledged. All members voted to approve the minutes, with the exception of the stated error.

**President S. Greenberg** thanked the Local Arrangements Chair, Nancy McCall, and Program Committee Chairs, Holly Herro and Patricia Gallagher. There was no formal report from the President other than to say "it has been a challenging year for many of us." He also offered a welcome to the members in attendance and stated that he was glad to see everyone there.

**Arlene Shaner, Treasurer**, reported on the status of membership: 138 members, of which 133 are returning and 5 are new (3 in 2011 after the last meeting and 2 in 2012). In her Treasurer's Report, Shaner stated that ALHHS has a balance of \$21,954.85 in its checking account. She officially filed the paperwork for "Tax Exempt" status. A motion to accept the report was called and accepted.

**Nancy McCall, Local Arrangements Chair**, thanked the members of her committee and welcomed all to the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. McCall also expressed her hope that we would enjoy the rest of our time in Baltimore. Greenberg thanked McCall and those on her committee on behalf of everyone at the meeting.

**Patricia Gallagher, Program Chair** thanked her co-chair Holly Herro for her extra help with many of the duties Holly performed when Patricia was busy with other projects in September. She also thanked everyone for attending this year's meeting.

**Lisa Mix, Awards Committee Chair**, thanked her committee members Elaine Challacombe and Howard Rootenberg. The committee issued a call for nominations for the ALHHS Publication Award, the Lisabeth M. Holloway Award, and the ALHHS Recognition of Merit award via the listserv and in *The Watermark*. The committee solicited nominees for awards in the following categories:

- Best Print Publication – comprising monographs and articles (even if published online)
- Best Online Resource – websites, online exhibitions, etc.

The committee received six nominations for the Best Print Publication Award and four nominations for the Best Online Resource Award. The winners for the Best Publication Award (for a monograph) were: Ellen S. More, Elizabeth Fee, and Manon Parry, eds. for their book *Women Physicians and the Cultures of Medicine* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009).

The winner for the Best Online Resource Award (for a website) went to incoming ALHHS President-Elect, Christopher Lyons, for the [Osler Library Prints Collection](#) at McGill Library.

Greenberg called Awards Chair Lisa Mix to the podium to present the awards. Lisa again thanked her committee members, and ALHHS Treasurer, Arlene Shaner, for ordering the Tiffany paperweights. She also thanked 2012 Local Arrangements Chair Nancy McCall for assuring that the awards arrived and President Stephen Greenberg for his guidance and support.

Lisa presented the awards to the winners, each of whom came up to receive their award and gave an acceptance speech.

More and Fee both expressed their appreciation to the ALHHS Awards Committee, to the other five authors that were nominated (whom they stated were all deserving of awards), their co-author, Manon Parry, and especially the ALHHS.

The Best Online Resource was given this year for the first time and Lisa presented the award to Christopher Lyons for his work in the creation of the *Osler Library Prints Collection* at McGill Library. Lyons thanked the ALHHS committee members, the ALHHS and McGill University.

**Stephen Novak, Editor of *The Watermark***, reported that four issues of *The Watermark* have appeared in electronic format since our last meeting. They have ranged from 35-79 pages with an average count of 51. Reader interest is high.

There are some changes in personnel in *The Watermark*: Stephen Greenberg is stepping down as Book Review Editor, and Patricia Gallagher will take on the position. However, Patricia is currently not affiliated with an institution so the cost of shipping books back and forth to her will be an issue. President Greenberg asked for a motion to have Gallagher reimbursed from the treasury for these costs; the motion was approved.

Stephen Novak acknowledged ALHHS Treasurer Arlene Shaner for her efforts to retain our advertisers, all six of whom renewed their ads for 2012. Eight additional *Watermark* articles have been indexed in PubMed in the last year, which brings the total number of articles to 85.

As mentioned last year, efforts to have digitized copies of *The Watermark* deposited at the University of California at Los Angeles' (UCLA) [eScholarship](#) scholarly publishing and repository service have stalled due to administrative vacancies at UCLA. Novak was happy to report that Russell Johnson, who has been negotiating with the University on behalf of ALHHS, has reached an agreement with eScholarship and believes the inclusion of *The Watermark* back issues in eScholarship might be completed by this Fall. UCLA will digitize the back issues that exist only in paper format and will absorb the costs involved. ALHHS will be responsible for expenses involved in shipping the copies to and from UCLA.

It was suggested that the ALHHS change the name of the publication to reflect its content, readership, and page length. However, Michael North indicated that a name change may result in the publication going through another review by NLM's *Literature Selection Technical Review Committee* (LSTRC). If the publication is reviewed by the current LSTRC, there is no guarantee that it will pass the standards used to evaluate titles for indexing of historical articles in PubMed. President Greenberg asked when this new process may take effect, and Michael stated it will be in a couple of months from now. The consensus was that we table this subject for now, as it was not worth the possibility of *The Watermark* no longer being indexed in PubMed.

Greenberg stated he will release the **2012 ALHHS directory** once his term as ALHHS President was completed. He also gave options for receiving the document with a white background, for those who preferred white to the cream/beige background. He thanked Patricia Gallagher and Arlene Shaner for their help with the directory project. Greenberg stated that the ALHHS plans to produce a directory every three years.

**Greenberg reported on the ALHHS Website & Listserv on behalf of Russell Johnson**, stating that the website is robust. He also mentioned that the listserv used to be managed by George Washington University (GWU) but is currently managed by UCLA. However, GWU never closed down our former listserv address, and as a result some ALHHS members are posting to the defunct GWU-based listserv rather than the current UCLA-based listserv. He asked that ALHHS members be sure to post to the correct listserv. Greenberg offered a special "thank you" to Russell Johnson for his outstanding work.

**Lisa Mix, reported on the ALHHS Procedures Manual**, stated that the procedures for ordering awards needed to be changed to reflect the ALHHS treasurer's role in the process. She indicated that the website will be updated as well.

**Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, Nominating Committee Chair**, reported on the election and stated that Greenberg asked her to chair the 2012-2013 election of officers. The

committee consisted of Jodi Koste, Virginia Commonwealth University, Joan Echtenkamp Klein, University of Virginia and Elaine Challacombe, University of Minnesota. After consultation among the committee members, and input from other ALHHS colleagues, they offered the Secretary position to Phoebe Evans Letocha from Johns Hopkins and the two Members-At-Large positions to Melissa Grafe of Yale and Rachel Ingold at Duke. Arlene Shaner facilitated the Survey Monkey ballot box and Michaela sent information via e-mail to the membership about casting their votes in this single slate election. The Survey Monkey generated the ballot which was e-mailed to our members. Sixty-eight votes were received, and all the candidates on the ballot were elected. Michaela thanked the committee members for their work and assistance.

Greenberg (on behalf of Jodi Koste) reported on **ALHHS Archives**. Jodi still has the ALHHS Archives, and according to her colleague from the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) (who attended ALHHS today's business meeting) the collection is located in the vault at VCU.

Greenberg reminded everyone that **next year's meeting** will be held in Atlanta, GA. Jonathon (John) Erlen stated that the conference hotel is located right across from the CDC Museum. Greenberg then invited President-Elect Christopher Lyons to come up to say a few words.

Lyons thanked all in attendance and stated that the first order of business will be to thank outgoing ALHHS President Stephen Greenberg for two wonderful years of work under trying circumstances. He also stated how excited he is to be part of the ALHHS organization, adding that he has held various officer positions in ALHHS, which gave him the opportunity to build wonderful networks in areas of education, information and making connections. He would like the membership to think about what more can be done within the organization, and he ended by thanking everyone for their participation. ALHHS President S. Greenberg called for a motion to adjourn, and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Crystal Smith**  
ALHHS Secretary

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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**ALHHS 2011-2012 Financial Report**

Checking account balance as of 4/1/2011 \$21,954.85

Income 4/1/2011-3/31/2012

2011 memberships (13)	\$195.00
2011 new memberships (4)	\$60.00
2012 memberships (124)	\$1860.00
2012 new memberships (2)	\$30.00
2012 extra donation	\$35.00
2013 membership (1)	\$15.00
2011 meeting only (11)	\$440.00
2011 dinner only (3)	\$150.00
2011 meeting and dinner (25)	\$2250.00
MeMA reimbursement for meeting and dinner expenses	\$1915.55
Watermark ads (6)	\$1080.00

Total income: \$8030.55

Expenses 4/1/2011 – 3/31/2012

Tiffany for 2011 awards	\$1143.19
Honoraria for 2011 meeting speakers (3)	\$1000.00
Catering for 2011 meeting	\$2588.91
College of Physicians of Phila for IT expenses for 2011 meeting	\$200.00
Chemical Heritage Society for 2011 dinner catering	\$2800.00
Medical Library Association (donation in honor of L McClure)	\$500.00
Survey Monkey (ballot survey)	\$24.00
Fee for filing IRS 1023 (tax exempt status application)	\$400.00
Postage to send 1023 application	\$5.90
Total expenses	\$8662.00

Ending balance 3/31/2012 \$21,323.40

ALHHS also has a CD with a balance of \$15,850.39 as of March 31, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Shaner  
ALHHS Treasurer

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)



## 2012 ALHHS Awards

### ALHHS Awards, 2012

The 2012 ALHHS Committee on Awards & Recognition was composed of Lisa Mix, Weill-Cornell Medical Center Archives, chair, Elaine Challacombe, Wangenstein Historical Library, and Howard Rootenberg, B&L Rootenberg Rare Books.

The Committee issued a call for nominations, via the listserv and a notice in *The Watermark*, for the ALHHS Publication Award, the Lisabeth M. Holloway Award, and the ALHHS Recognition of Merit.

For the ALHHS Publication Award, the Committee solicited nominees for awards in the following categories:

- Best Print Publication – comprising monographs and articles (even if published online)
- Best Online Resource – websites, online exhibits, etc.

For **Best Print Publication** nominees were judged and scored on the following criteria:

- Scope (1-30 points): degree of impact on ALHHS members and their patrons
- Quality of content (1-60 points): depth of scholarship, quality of writing, completeness of treatment, additional scholarly resources
- Production values (1-10 points): quality of printing, binding, illustrations;

Six nominations were received:

John R. Pierce, **Michael G. Rhode**, and Marylou Gjernes, Kathleen Stocker, Catherine F. Sorge, Douglas Wise, Martha Lenhart. *Walter Reed Army Medical Center Centennial: A Pictorial History, 1909-2009*. Washington, DC: Borden Institute, 2011. ALHHS member: Rhode

**Jeffrey S. Reznick**. *John Galsworthy and Disabled Soldiers of the Great War, with an Illustrated Selection of his Writings*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2009.

Henry K. Sharp, Ph.D. and Morton C. Wilhelm, M.D., in collaboration with **Joan Echtenkamp Klein**, Janet S. Pearson, and Sonya Coleman. *A History of Cancer Care at the University of Virginia, 1901-2011*. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia, 2011. ALHHS member: Klein

**Judith Wiener** and Anne T. Gilliland. (2011) "Balancing Between Two Goods: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and Ethical Compliancy Considerations for

Privacy: Sensitive Materials in Health Sciences Archival and Historical Special Collections.” *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, 99(1), 15-22.

ALHHS member: Weiner

J. M. Welch, **Susan D. Hoffius, and Brooke Fox.** (2011) “Archives, accessibility, and advocacy: A case study of strategies for creating and maintaining relevance.” *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, 99(1), 57-60.

ALHHS members: Hoffius and Fox

**Ellen S. More, Elizabeth Fee,** and Manon Parry, eds. *Women Physicians and the Cultures of Medicine*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009. ALHHS members: More and Fee



**Ellen More (l.) and Elizabeth Fee (r.) receiving ALHHS Publication Award from Award Chair Lisa Mix.**

**Winner:** Ellen S. More and Elizabeth Fee for *Women Physicians and the Cultures of Medicine*

For **Best Online Resource** nominees were judged and scored on the following criteria:

- Scope (1-30 points): degree of impact on ALHHS members and their patrons
- Quality of content (1-50 points): depth of scholarship, quality of writing, completeness of treatment, additional scholarly resources
- Production values (1-20 points): quality of images, integration of text and images. ease of use, overall attractiveness of site

Four nominations were received:

**Rachel Ingold.** [Animated Anatomies](#). 2011: Duke University Libraries.

**Dee Jones and Deidra Woodson.** [LSU Health Sciences Center – Shreveport: a Chronological History](#). 2009: LSUHSC-S Medical Library.

**Joan Echtenkamp Klein.** [A History of Cancer Care at the University of Virginia, 1901-2011](#). 2011: University of Virginia.

**Christopher Lyons.** [The Osler Library Prints Collection](#). 2011: McGill University Library.

**Winner:** Christopher Lyons. [The Osler Library Prints Collection](#).

Competition was close in both categories, with 2 points separating the top contenders in one category, and 1 point separating them in the other. The Committee met by conference call on March 23 to deliberate and decide the winners.

**Lisabeth M. Holloway Award:** No nominations received. No award presented.

**ALHHS Recognition of Merit:** No nominations received. No award presented.

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their time and effort in reviewing the nominees, and for their insights; ALHHS Treasurer Arlene Shaner for ordering the Tiffany paperweights; 2012 Local Arrangements Chair Nancy McCall for ensuring that the awards arrived at the meeting site; and ALHHS President Stephen Greenberg for his guidance and support.

**Lisa A. Mix**

Chair, ALHHS Committee on Awards & Recognition 2012

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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

### NLM & National Endowment for the Humanities to Cooperate on Initiatives of Common Interest

The National Library of Medicine and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) are forming a new partnership. They will collaborate to develop initiatives that bring together scholars, scientists, librarians, doctors and cultural heritage professionals from the humanities and biomedical communities in order to share expertise and develop new research agendas.

Representatives from the NLM and the NEH signed a memorandum of understanding that outlines their partnership and recognizes their shared interest in advancing health and medical education, training and information dissemination for research, teaching and learning by the humanities and biomedical communities.

As initial efforts, the partners will work together to:

- Explore areas of mutual interest for research, particularly in the fields of digital humanities and the history of medicine;
- Develop and participate in curricula and courses, training and internship opportunities, and other educational initiatives; and

- Develop initiatives to increase access to careers in medicine and health, with a particular interest in reaching students who are under-represented in the fields

## **Exhibition Program**

HMD staff participated in “Celebrate Hawaii” at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), to raise awareness about [Native Voices: Native Peoples’ Concepts of Health and Illness](#), the major exhibit on display at the NLM. “Celebrate Hawaii” is an annual festival honoring Native Hawaiian culture. This year’s theme was “Healing and Aloha”—two elements of Native Hawaiian culture that illustrate a critical aspect of the Hawaiian worldview. “Aloha” signifies the emotional sincerity that informs a cultural outlook, and is expressed in the way one interacts with other people and nature, craftsmanship, art, and performances. It is an essential part of traditional healing practices, as well, and is inextricably linked with well-being. Thousands of DC locals and tourists attended the 2-day event, which ran May 26-27, 2012.

“Celebrate Hawaii”’s schedule was filled with demonstrations and tutorials, performances, films, and informal discussions on Native Hawaiian culture. Master craftsmen created a surfboard and a Holua sled before an audience, and demonstrated the use of traditional implements. Groups from local Native Hawaiian cultural schools performed songs and dances. Dr. Alike Maunakea, a Native Hawaiian researcher at the National Institutes of Health talked about health and wellness. A traditional hula instructor held a workshop and a Native Hawaiian artist gave tutorials on creating cloth out of tree bark, called kapa. Each event appealed to children and adults alike, and was well-attended.

The NLM offered an information booth in the main atrium of the NMAI. Staff used iPads to demonstrate the use of various parts of the website for Native Voices, including the Timeline, an interactive display that allows users to thumb through significant historical events, and interviews with Native Hawaiian healers. Exhibition brochures and information on visiting the NLM were also disseminated. Altogether, the NLM’s involvement in the event was a success, with hundreds of event attendees stopping by the booth for more information and to schedule tours of Native Voices.

## **HMD Expands Digital Oral History Collections**

HMD recently added to its online oral history content 130 interviews, over 6,800 pages of transcripts and 50 hours of audio content along with 5 new special collections. These additions more than double the number of interviews, and increases by 50% the number of pages of transcripts available. The content may be accessed [here](#) as part of the growing electronic texts of the Library’s Archives and Modern Manuscripts Program.

As with the initial release, the materials include digital editions of transcripts, and audio content when feasible. Users can browse the interviews by title, interviewee name, and subject. Full-text searching is available across all collections, across each collection, and within each transcript. The five collections added are:

- Albert Szent-Györgyi Oral History Collection—conducted with colleagues and students of the scientist who was awarded the Nobel Prize for his work on the citric acid cycle. These interviews were conducted as part of development of his site on the Library's Profiles in Science project.
- James W. Papez Oral History Collection—a collection of oral history interviews conducted by Dr. Kenneth E. Livingston during 1981 and 1982, to document the contributions of Cornell neuroanatomist James W. Papez.
- NIMH Oral History Collection— interviews with 42 individuals significant to the foundation and early history of the National Institute of Mental Health, conducted by Dr. Eli A. Rubinstein between the years 1975 and 1978.
- National Information Center on Health Services Research Oral Histories, with content created through a collaboration between the Library's History of Medicine Division and NICHSR.
- Stephen Strickland NIH Extramural Program Oral History Collection—conducted by Strickland as part of his project to write a history of the extramural programs at NIH.

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.

### **Medical Heritage Library Project**

NLM is very pleased with the outcome of its participation in the Medical Heritage Library Project. NLM thanks the Open Knowledge Commons for its administrative support and the Sloan Foundation for its financial support. NLM also appreciates the support and cooperation of its MHL colleagues from the original participating institutions whose collaborative work made this project so successful.

Through its engagement in the Medical Heritage Library, the NLM has established its own digital scanning program which has enabled careful attention to cataloging and conservation and delivery of the highest quality content. NLM now plans to tag its existing digital Cholera collection in NLM's Digital Collections and add it to the Medical Heritage Library collection on Internet Archive (IA.) In addition, NLM utilized existing non-grant funds to scan 66,000 pages from the microfilm copies of 250 Americana volumes that will also be tagged for contribution to MHL. These digital resources will be available to the world via NLM's own repository and collections build around Internet Archive and other publicly available large scale collections.

### **Update on *Hidden Treasure: The National Library of Medicine***

*Hidden Treasure* is now available as [a free download from NLM's Digital Collections](#). The book also remains available from its publisher, Blast Books, and major online booksellers.



**Jeffrey S. Reznick**

Deputy Chief, History of Medicine Division  
National Library of Medicine

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

## NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME LIBRARY

### New appointment

The Wellcome Library is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Elma Brenner as Specialist in Medieval and Early Modern Medicine.

Dr. Brenner joins the Library from the History and Philosophy of Science department at the University of Cambridge and the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies at the University of Toronto, where her research interests included the history of leprosy, mental illness, hospitals and charity in medieval Western Europe, focusing on the city of Rouen, France.

The post of Specialist in Medieval and Early Modern Medicine was created to increase the profile of the Wellcome Library's important collections from these periods, and to stimulate and facilitate their use by a range of audiences, both physically and on-line.

### British health posters

The Wellcome Library has acquired a [collection of 600 British posters](#) dating from the 1940s to the 1990s, advertising the health-maintenance activities of the British state. Most were produced by the Central Office of Information for the U.K. Ministry of Health (subsequently Department of Health and Social Security, subsequently Department of Health).



The subjects of the posters range across the health spectrum, from information for the public on National Health Service services, such as community care and emergency GPs, to posters warning of the dangers of infectious disease, from colds and flu to tuberculosis and AIDS.

The posters are accompanied by a large collection of photographs, drawings, etc. which have not yet been explored, except for one item, a photograph album ([Wellcome Library no. 811058j](#)) recording an exhibition from 1948 called *Health of the People*. This exhibition was put on by the Central Office of Information in Oxford Street, London, apparently to publicize the introduction of the National Health Service (NHS) in that year. On display from May to June 1948, the exhibition was an ambitious attempt to communicate the history of public health and the difference that the NHS would make between the past and the future.

### Creating an online archive catalogue

On April 26th 2002, one of the Wellcome Library's archivists sat at a PC and started our online archive catalogue programme. The archivists went through various options to set up an import of data, selected the source file and clicked OK...

...and a matter of seconds later, our archive database had received its first load of converted catalogue data and we had set out on a journey from paper to digital, a journey completed in April 2012 with the conversion of our last paper archive list.

It is hard, now, to think back to those early days, so accustomed are Library users and staff to the archive database. The complexities of rendering a hierarchical archive catalogue on the screen - plus, for a long time, a lack of agreement as to what an archive catalogue should actually do - meant that good cataloguing software for archives developed more slowly than that for libraries, and it was only in the 1990s that a move to database catalogues gained some momentum. (Happily, this took place at the same time as the explosion in use of the World Wide Web, so archive catalogues, when they did arrive, were able to jump straightaway to giving readers web access, rather than forcing them to work with pre-web technologies such as Telnet.)

Up until that time, the reader wanting to use our archives and manuscripts sources was confronted by six meaty published volumes of manuscript cataloguing, and some two hundred spiral-bound word-processed lists of twentieth-century archive collections.

The database was to revolutionise all this, and to democratise access to archives and manuscripts profoundly. It enabled readers to ask the questions that *they* wanted to have answered, not simply the ones we had managed to predict; and by opening up the database to a wider range of enquiries, saw some hitherto quieter areas of the collection receiving heavier use than ever before.

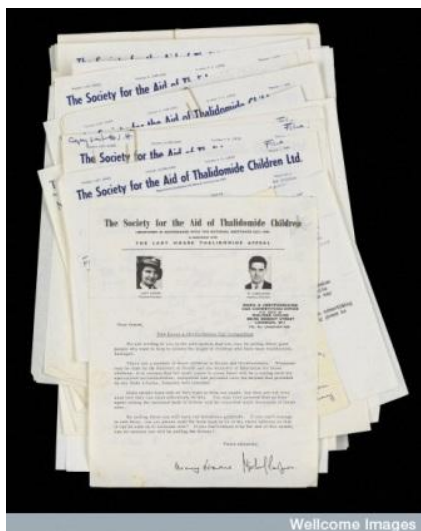
First, though, we had to get the data into our database. Our first converted catalogues came as a result of involvement in collaborative projects with other institutions, such as [Access to Archives](#) (or A2A). In 2001, a Project Officer was employed on a fixed term contract to work on converting more data to our online catalogue.

At the end of this project in 2003, well over 75% of our data was in there. In the time since then, members of the archives department have converted the remaining catalogues in spare half-hours here and there (evening and Saturday duties have been particularly fertile times). Now, that era has ended. After a little under ten years, the final catalogue has been converted and loaded: the catalogue of the [Chartered Society of Physiotherapy](#)'s papers, which had drawn the short straw and ended up last of all, was converted and loaded in April of this year.

The year 2012, then, sees the end of an era: all of our archive catalogues online at last. It comes, as luck would have it, just as a new set of technical developments needs work: the wholesale digitisation of archive holdings, among other library materials, and the need to make catalogue records and images link up in as smooth and seamless an experience for the reader as we can manage. The archivists, needless to say, are not putting their feet up at this particular moment; it is, however, time for a few minutes of retrospect and quiet satisfaction as a long-running project comes to a close.

### **Papers on the History of Thalidomide – catalogued and available for research**

The archive of the Thalidomide Society ([SA/TSY](#)) and the papers of Professor Richard Smithells ([PP/SML](#)) have been catalogued and are now available to researchers at the Wellcome Library.



Wellcome Images

Thalidomide was developed by the pharmaceutical company Grünenthal in Germany in 1957, and was used as a painkiller and tranquillizer. It was also effective in treating morning sickness during pregnancy, and many scientists believed that this drug would not harm the developing baby. However this was found not to be the case and over 10,000 children in 46 countries were born with deformities such as phocomelia. The drug was licenced in Britain in 1958, marketed as Distaval, and was withdrawn in late 1961. Between 1959 and 1962 approximately 2,000 babies were born with deformities due to the drug, and only 466 survived. 2012 is a landmark year in thalidomide's history: it is just over 50 years since withdrawal of the

drug Distaval and is the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Thalidomide Society.

The Thalidomide Society (originally called the Society for the Aid of Thalidomide Children) was formed by a meeting of four parents in August 1962, at the Dolphin Hotel in Southampton. Their aim was to set up a national society devoted to the aid of their own and other children affected by the drug thalidomide. The inaugural meeting took place on 20th October 1962, with forty-four parents attending. A draft constitution was created which states that the Society would not only include children affected by

thalidomide but those with similar disabilities. Branches of the Thalidomide Society were set up, due to the wide geographic range of the parents. Members would meet regularly and operated with local organisations that could help the families.

The Society is now a user-led organisation; the majority of the council is made up of thalidomide-affected people. The archive of the Thalidomide Society contains documents on its creation, fundraising schemes, publications, and of their recent events such as the Annual General Meetings and conferences.

Distillers (the company that distributed thalidomide: it is now owned by Diageo Ltd) and the parents of the children affected by thalidomide finally reached a settlement in 1973, after years of negotiations. From this the Thalidomide Children's Trust (now the Thalidomide Trust) was set up to distribute the payments fairly amongst those affected. Professor Richard Smithells, a renowned consultant paediatrician, worked closely in these negotiations and provided medical testimony. Smithells became involved with thalidomide as a clinician with the Liverpool Registry of Congenital Abnormalities that was formed in 1960, where he began studying the links between prescription drug use during pregnancy and birth defects. Along with several other physicians he discovered the teratogenicity of thalidomide in 1961, and subsequently became a leading expert on thalidomide diagnostics. Much of his work concerning thalidomide and congenital malformations is reflected in his catalogued papers.

The collections of the Thalidomide Society and Professor Smithells are part of the Wellcome Library's Archives and Manuscripts collection. Please note that due to the subject and nature of the material, a significant proportion of the documents in these two collections have been closed for various fixed periods, for data sensitivity reasons.

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

**Ross MacFarlane**

Research Officer

Wellcome Library

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

## NEW MEMBER PROFILES

### Drew Bourn

**Member of ALHHS since:** 2007

**Hometown:** Joppatowne, Maryland

**Current Employer and Position:** Stanford University.  
Curator, Stanford Medical History Center.

**Education:** MTS, Harvard. MLIS, Simmons College.  
PhD, University of California (expected 2012)

**Professional interests:** Collaborations with other repositories, including aggregating digital content and improving union databases for finding aids. Developing Web 2.0 functionality to solicit user-generated content. Exploring emerging technologies such as geotagging and GPS-based augmented reality to find new ways of making content discoverable and deliverable.



**Other facts, interests, or hobbies:** After filing my dissertation this year, I hope to begin teaching San Francisco history as part of Stanford's Continuing Studies program in 2013. I write a blog entitled [Using San Francisco History](#) and I volunteer as a consultant to the [GLBT Historical Society](#). I see being an archivist and being an historian as two sides of the same coin. The role of the archivist is to make original historical evidence accessible and usable; the role of the historian is to find and use the evidence in archives in order to tell new stories about the past in ways that can make changes in our lives for the present and the future. Both my father and his father have done work in local history and/or as archivists; and I come from a family of librarians and educators. I share a home with my husband, Jim Cain, PhD, and our Black Lab, Sceolán, in the Castro in San Francisco.



### Marisa Shaari

**Member of ALHHS since:** Fall 2011

**Hometown:** Fort Lee, NJ

**Current Employer and Position:** Special Collections Librarian, The Oskar Diethelm Library, DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry, Weill Cornell Medical College

**Education:** B.A. History, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; M.A. Museum Studies, Seton Hall



University, South Orange, NJ; M.L.I.S. Pratt Institute, New York, NY

**Professional interests:** Working in a small repository like the Oskar Diethelm Library has given me insight into what it takes to be a lone archivist/librarian. I wear many different hats on any given day. I am responsible for a large collection of books and journals in the history of psychiatry (over 30,000), as well as numerous archival collections and prints and photographs. I am always looking for ways to increase access to the collection materials, by putting finding aids up online, by cataloging unprocessed collections, or by starting digitization projects for image collections. I am very interested in using new technologies in innovative ways to exhibit and display materials. I also enjoy helping researchers and find it very satisfying to unearth information important to their research.

**Other facts, interests, or hobbies:** I love to cook and am always trying out new recipes. Travel is also a passion of mine, though I don't get to do enough of it! Lately I have been working on honing my crocheting skills and I also enjoy sewing.

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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## COLLECTIONS

### Dept. of Community Medicine Records Open at Mount Sinai Medical Center

The Mount Sinai Medical Center Archives in New York City would like to announce the opening of the Records of the Chairman of the Dept. of Community Medicine from 1968-1990, Kurt W. Deuschle, MD. This collection - almost 33 feet of records spread over 43 boxes - reflects a pioneering career in community medicine that spanned from 1948 until Deuschle's death in 2003. Dr. Deuschle's career had three main sections: his early years working on the Navajo reservation in the American Southwest, his years as Chairman of the first Department of Community Medicine in this country at the University of Kentucky, and his tenure as head of Mount Sinai's Department. These records largely document his Mount Sinai years.

The Dept. of Community Medicine (Deuschle) records are organized in 11 series: Correspondence Series, 1960-1996; General Alphabetical Series I, 1956-2000; Reprint Series, 1953-1995; Subcommittee on Ethical Research Practices Series (SERP), 1979-1988; Personal Series, 1966-1995; International Series, 1951-1989; General Alphabetical Series II, 1954-1995; Foundations Series, 1968-1995; Faculty Series, 1948-1993; References





Series, 1968-1994; and Slides, 1952-1981.

This collection would be of interest to anyone studying the fields of Community and Preventive Medicine or healthcare in New York City, particularly in East Harlem. Dr. Deuschle also took several study trips abroad and the records contain material on his visits to Turkey (1962-65, 1984), China (1978, 1986), Lagos, Nigeria (1977) and other places.

The finding aid can be viewed on [the Archives' website](#). For questions or further information, please contact Barbara Niss at [Barbara.Niss@mssm.edu](mailto:Barbara.Niss@mssm.edu)

## Massachusetts General Hospital Museum Opens in Boston

The Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) announces the opening of the Paul S. Russell Museum of Medical History and Innovation at the corner Cambridge and North Grove Streets in Boston. The museum is intended to function as a portal between the hospital and the Boston community, showcasing historic as well as modern milestones in medicine, surgery, and clinical practice. Interactive video displays share space with historical objects, tracing the progress of health care over the course of two centuries. The museum's rooftop garden is an open-air retreat, featuring carefully selected plantings and sweeping views of Boston's Beacon Hill neighborhood. The museum is free and open to the public, Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. The Russell Museum inherits art and artifacts previously cared for by the MGH Archives and Special Collections; the exact relationship between the museum and the archives has not yet been determined. For more information see the museum's [web site](#).

### Jeffrey Mifflin

Archivist

Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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## MILESTONES

### Senior Navy Medical Historian Retires

After 42 years of federal service, and 33 years as Historian for the Navy Medical Department, Jan K. Herman has retired.

Since 1979, Mr. Herman has worked as Historian of the Navy Medical Department, curator of the old U.S. Naval Observatory, and, until 2009, Editor-in-Chief of *Navy Medicine*, the bimonthly journal of the Navy Medical Department. In 2009, he became

Special Assistant to the Navy Surgeon General. In 2010, he was appointed Director of the Benjamin Rush Education and Conference Center of the Navy Medicine Institute.



Herman in 1983

In 2002, he was appointed to the adjunct faculty of the International Lincoln Center for American Studies of Louisiana State University, Shreveport. In 2008, he was a consultant for the Lincoln Center revival of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *South Pacific*. With the Navy Medical Support Command, Bethesda, MD, Mr. Herman produced a six-part video series, *Navy Medicine at War*, and has produced a documentary and is writing a companion volume about the rescue of the South Vietnamese navy during the closing days of the Vietnam War. The film is entitled *The Lucky Few: The Story of USS Kirk*. In August-September 2010, National Public Radio aired a three-part series about USS Kirk and her crew.

He has authored over 50 articles and several books, including *A Hilltop in Foggy Bottom: Home of the Old Naval Observatory and the Navy Medical Department* (1996), *Battle Station Sick Bay: Navy Medicine in World War II* (1997), *Frozen in Memory: U.S. Navy Medicine in the Korean War* (2006), *Navy Medicine in Vietnam: Oral Histories from Dien Bien Phu to the Fall of Saigon* (2009), and *Murray's Ark and Other Stories* (2010). His new book, *The Lucky Few: Vietnam's Tragedy Turned Triumph on USS Kirk*, will be published in 2012. In his retirement, Mr. Herman plans to continue to study history and make documentary films.

The Office of Medical History has physically moved to Northern Virginia, and is staffed by historian Andre Sobocinski and archivist Michael Rhode. The office's blog, "Tranquillity, Solace & Mercy," can be seen [here](#).

## CHFM Announces Joint Winners of Annual History of Family Medicine Fellowship



The Center for the History of Family Medicine (CHFM) announced today the winners of the 2012 CHFM Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine.

Rick Flinders, MD of Rohnert Park, California and Robin S. Gotler, MA, of Richfield, Minnesota have been named the joint recipients of the Second Annual Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine.

Dr. Flinders is a practicing family physician and currently serves as the Inpatient Director of the Santa Rosa Family Medicine Residency Program in Santa Rosa, California and as Chair of the Editorial Board of the Sonoma County Medical Association. Ms. Gotler is the Reflections Editor and Editorial Coordinator of the *Annals of Family Medicine*, a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary research journal based at Case Western Reserve University.

Dr. Flinders' "The Santa Rosa Story: A Local Chapter in the Nation's History of Family Medicine," the subject which won him the 2012 CHFM Fellowship award, is a study in the history and development of the Santa Rosa Residency Program within the larger context of the history and evolution of the specialty itself. According to Dr. Flinders, the study "traces my own route into family medicine, and speaks to the historical and cultural roots that drew many of us into family medicine in the 60's and 70's, and continues to do so into this century."

Robin Gotler's fellowship award was for her project entitled "The Roots of Family Practice Research." This study, according to Ms. Gotler, "aims to further our understanding of what shaped the priority given to research as the specialty of family practice was established and in its early years. Examining the history of research in family practice sheds light not only on the specialty's knowledge base but also on a range of issues that continue to challenge the field today."



"The joint awarding of the Fellowship to Dr. Flinders and Ms. Gotler was the result of an extremely strong field of applicants for this year's award," said Dr. Michelle Jones, Convener of the CHFM's Board of Curators. "Although normally we only award one fellowship per year, it was the conclusion of the Board that both applications equally merited the fellowship award for this year."

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 2013 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 on the history of general practice, family practice, or family medicine in the United States. For more information, please [visit the Center's website](#).

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Call for Papers: SAHMS Fifteenth Annual Meeting February 21-23, 2013, Charleston, SC

The Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science (SAHMS) invites paper proposals for its thirteenth annual meeting on February 21-23, 2013, in Charleston, SC, hosted by the Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina.

SAHMS welcomes papers on the history of medicine and science, broadly construed to encompass historical, literary, anthropological, philosophical and sociological approaches to health care and science including race, disabilities and gender studies. Participants may propose individual papers or panels of several papers on a particular theme.

Each presenter is limited to 20 minutes, with additional time for questions and discussion. Please do not submit papers that have already been published, presented or scheduled for presentation at another meeting. All participants are responsible for their own travel expenses and must pay registration costs in advance of the meeting. Student travel awards are available each year; for more information go [here](#) and click on "Student Travel Grant Guidelines." **Students MUST follow these guidelines to be considered.** Online submission will be available by August at <http://www.sahms.net/>.

For further information about the program or SAHMS please contact the Program Chair, Michael A. Flannery: [flannery@uab.edu](mailto:flannery@uab.edu). The deadline is September 30, 2012.

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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## BOOK REVIEWS

**Tonse N.K. Raju, *The Importance of Having a Brain: Tales from the History of Medicine* (Denver: Outskirts Press, 2012); xiii + 334 pages. ISBN-13: 978-1-4327-6773-0. Softcover, \$19.95.**

This book is a collection of vignettes on various aspects of the history of medicine and related sciences written by the author over a period of about forty years. Tonse N. K. Raju, a physician who was formerly a professor of pediatrics, is now located at the National Institutes of Health.

In the preface, the author notes that, although medical history is fascinating, its treatment in the medical school curriculum is superficial at best. His own interest in

medical history came as a student, inspired by one of his professors. This book, he says, is an attempt to repay that professor. The author's hope is that the reader will find the stories in the book "fun and informative, rather than in-depth analyses." They are "dispensed in small doses for the novice." (p. xiii)

The stories are not arranged chronologically, but are grouped topically in seven parts: *Mighty Microbes*, *Parts and Principles*, *Relief and Remedies*, *For Babies and Their Moms*, *Incredible Experiments*, *Mortals and Martyrs*, and *Miscellaneous*. The title of the book comes from one of the longest (six pages) stories in the book, "The Importance of Having a Brain." That story starts with Aristotle's failure to recognize the importance of the brain and goes on to discuss Gall's practice of phrenology and the contributions of Broca, Golgi, Ramón y Cajal, and Sherrington.

Most of the stories are three to four pages in length. Some examples include Edward Jenner and the prevention of smallpox; Leeuwenhoek's observations with his microscopes; the first measurement of blood pressure; William Harvey and the circulation of blood; Malpighi and the microscopic structure of the lungs; the introduction of anesthesia; the discovery of insulin; the development of aspirin; James Lind's discover of a remedy for scurvy among sailors; the many contributions of Louis Pasteur; Semmelweis and handwashing; Virginia Apgar, Maude Abbott, and famous individuals who may have been high-risk babies; the invention of the stethoscope; the influence of Andreas Vesalius; Roentgen and the discovery of x-rays; Antoine Lavoisier's contributions to chemistry; late nineteenth century Chicago surgeon Daniel Hale Williams and the founding of the Provident Hospital; Alfred Nobel, the founder of the Nobel Prizes; the statistics publications of a brewery employee under the pseudonym Student; and the caduceus versus the shaft of Asclepius as the symbol of medicine.

Stories in the *Miscellaneous* section are shorter, ranging from one paragraph to two pages. That section also contains a twelve question medical history multiple choice quiz, and an entry with the descriptions of the origins of twelve words, most of them anatomical terms. The book also contains a few black-and-white photographs and some cartoons depicting historical events. There is a selected bibliography and an index.

My background in the history of vision science leads me to a very minor quibble with one of the author's statements. He mentions that English scientist Thomas Young (1773-1829) demonstrated the correct mechanism for accommodation of the eye and implied that as a result "the science of optics was born" (p. 310) Although that and other work

by Thomas Young was very important for understanding vision, the science of optics predated him by several centuries.

I believe that the author has met his goal of providing fun and informative reading on medical history for the novice. Although this may not be a book that one would expect to find in a research library, it could be recommended to someone seeking light introductory reading on the history of medicine and related sciences.

**David A. Goss, OD, PhD, MLS**

Professor of Optometry

Indiana University

**Howard Padwa. *Social Poison: The Culture and Politics of Opiate Control in Britain and France, 1821-1926*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2012. x, 232 pages. \$55.00. ISBN 9781421404202**

This book examines the social effects of drug use, specifically opium and its derivatives, and the responses to these challenges by Britain and France during the period 1821 to 1926. In 1821, Englishman Thomas De Quincey first published *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* and in 1926 the British Ministry of Health published its report on opiate addiction in which support for maintenance treatment was established. The book's four chapters flow nicely from a description of the use of opium, particularly as compared with alcohol; perceived social costs of opium use in Britain and in France; attempts at regulation in the two countries during this time period; and the effects of these controls in the two countries. An epilogue looks at drug policy today, particularly in the United States. The author, Howard Padwa, is a postdoctoral researcher at UCLA's Integrated Substance Abuse Programs and the UCLA Center for Health Services and Society.

In describing the effects of opium use, Padwa makes a very interesting comparison with alcohol. Alcohol was, and is still today seen as a social lubricant. It can promote conviviality and a sense of camaraderie, although he acknowledges the darker side of alcohol abuse too. Opium makes people turn inward. Intellectuals saw opium as a means of reaching ultimate truths by stimulating the brain and drawing forth what was hidden. Opium dens allowed people to turn inward by removing worldly distraction. Opium was thus seen as exclusionary, and effete.

As is well known, opium has been used extensively in medicines throughout history. In Europe during this period, it was used for pain relief for just about anything, and people could slide into addiction without understanding its consequences. Opium also had



economic and political uses, specifically in Asia where opium production and use was actively encouraged by colonial Britain and France. The sale of opium grown in India to the Chinese was a major source of revenue to the British East India Company in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The French had a monopoly on opium in Indochina. Attempts to regulate the domestic sale and use of opium, compounds like laudanum and the purer and more addictive morphine, were complicated by these economic and political dimensions.

Padwa's thesis rests on the distinction between the characters of British and French societies. British addicts were viewed as still basically functional members of society. Britain valued individualism and commercial success. Efforts at opium regulation and treatment were instituted only when domestic use began to threaten the state's economic health, in the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. By contrast, France valued social engagement and contributions to the collective republic. Addicts were seen as violating this social contract and threatening the health of the French republic physically, ideologically and politically. Opium use in the military was of especial concern. Britain's response to the threat of addiction was to endorse maintenance doses of opiates to allow users to function. France concentrated its efforts on prevention and regulation. In the epilogue, Padwa discusses modern efforts at managing addiction. Current policies are driven by increases in drug use in the 1960s and the development of HIV/AIDS in the 1980s. Addiction has physical and psychological costs to the individual, but the societal costs are explicitly recognized as well. Addiction is seen "as a disorder that compromises individuals' capacities to fulfill their obligations to their fellow citizens and the social whole" [p.182]. How each country responds to the challenges of illegal drugs is driven by how it defines good citizenship. It may be more clearly stated now, but this perspective has colored the "drug wars" since their inception.

Although this book appears to be an expanded version of a Ph.D. dissertation, it is well-written and readable, thought-provoking and well researched. It is definitely worth reading.

**Jennifer D. Miglus**

Librarian

Hartford Medical Society Historical Library

**Michele L. Clouse. *Medicine, Government and Public Health in Philip II's Spain: Shared Interests, Competing Authorities* (Surrey, UK and Burlington, VT: Ashgate Press, 2011) xiv, 204 pages., \$104.95. ISBN 9781409437949**

When reading the history of public health, it is inevitable that there will be an intersection between the study and practice of medicine and the governmental bureaucracies that

interact with the public. In Michele Clouse's recent book, *Medicine, Government and Public Health in Philip II's Spain*, it is evident that 16<sup>th</sup> century Spain was a time when change in public health policy involved not just the King and medical institutions, but the experiential practitioners and public alike.

Though most famously known for his tumultuous relationship with England, highlighted by his marriage to Mary I, and the Spanish Armada, Philip II played a significant role in changing the medical establishment of Spain. While historians may be familiar with the "town and gown" phenomenon in other regions of Europe, Spain encountered a "town and crown" dynamic which positively influenced the political role in the evolution of medical guidelines and regulation. Clouse takes the time to highlight five aspects of significant change where this "town and crown" interaction occurred. Chapter one is dedicated to the Tribunal del Protomedicato, the governmental body that oversaw the regulation of Spain, which eventually evolved its role to cover not just managing the protomédico, or chief medical officers, and the licensing of physicians, but also the levying and collecting of fines as well as overseeing cases of malpractice. Chapter two focuses on the regulation of medical education in Spanish universities, including medical and surgical curricula, required texts, and matriculation and graduation requirements. Chapter three looks into the regulation of those whose medical practice was based on experience rather than university training, such as empirics and bone setters. Chapter four focuses on the apothecaries, who held a unique position in both medicine and the herb trade. Finally, chapter five looks into the crown's attempt at regulating relief provided to the poor of Spain, which added the religious component to public health policy.

While Clouse is the first to admit that, "precisely who was responsible for creating, enacting, and enforcing such regulatory measures...was a matter for negotiation," she does highlight the transparency that made change in Spanish public health policy so significant. Much of the policy enacted was as a result of petitions filed with the *Cortes*, which acted as the point of contact for representatives of the municipalities to the crown. Some petitions Clouse highlights which resulted in public policy enacted by the crown were the lack of physicians and surgeons in poor towns, the lack of quality communication between apothecaries and physicians, and the ability to address the need for the care of the poor, especially during times of economic strife or disease. Also discussed was the possibility of influences on policy reform that may have been stronger than the desire to improve public health. Most notable is the question of whether or not the actions taken to regulate medicine were motivated by Philip II's desire to centralize control over medical culture in Spain. Clouse points to various licensing regulations enacted as proof of this, while still maintaining the constant role of local officials who worked in conjunction with the protomédicos.

Throughout the reading of this text, this reviewer could not help but meditate on the meaning of public health. In modern terms, public health is a multi-dimensional, constantly changing, natural outcome of interactions between research, practice, and community. In this book, the definition of public health is not necessarily as clear-cut. While the actions taken by the crown were the result of concerns raised by those in direct contact with the public in question, the effects of these changes are less obvious. For example, the lack of outright data demonstrating the impact of the Poor Laws of 1565 on the number of people at risk of contracting plague makes this reviewer question whether the author considered public health as a motivating factor or a secondary outcome. However, the text does stress that public health was the implied understanding that policy reform was for the greater good of society as a whole rather than individual goals, such as reducing disease or increasing life expectancy.

As a whole, this text is a well-researched and thoughtful consideration of the many players involved and influences on politico-medicinal policy. This book was written for an academic audience with an advanced knowledge of European history and medicine. The very specific nature of the work does not leave room for diversion from the topic, but the detail with which the topic is addressed provides the reader with a significant amount of insight on medical policy in Spain. Clouse's work would best be found in an academic setting, in consultation with similar publications on Spain, European history, public health, public policy, and medicine.

**Leslie Ward M.S.L.I.S.**

Library Assistant

University of Massachusetts at Lowell

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

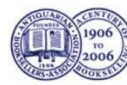
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[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)