

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

Volume XXXIX

Number 3

Summer 2016





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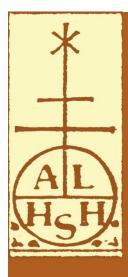
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**Submissions for the Watermark:** 

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 Martha Stone, 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: Exhibit at The Bakken Museum, Minneapolis: Photo by Kristen Vogt Veggeberg



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# **EDITOR'S MESSAGE**



With our former editor, Martha Stone, having stepped down to pursue other interests, I was happy to accept the request of our new President, Rachel Ingold, to become Interim Editor of *The Watermark*. Martha left our journal in excellent shape and I look forward to working with our team of Jack Eckert, Associate Editor, Jenn Nelson, MeMa Notes Editor, Patricia Gallagher, Book Review Editor, Brooke Fox, Layout Editor, and Jonathon Erlen, Associate Book Review Editor. In the meantime, I hope another ALHHS member will consider stepping up to becoming permanent Editor.

It was wonderful to see so many friends at this past annual meeting in Minneapolis. For those who weren't able to attend, I hope this issue will give you a sense of it. As usual, we're grateful to Steven Greenberg for his photographs of the meeting and to all the contributors to this issue.

# Stephen Novak

Editor

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Every April I look forward to our annual meeting. Not only is it a chance to see folks I tend to see only once a year, but I know that I will return to work rejuvenated, full of new ideas as well as questions. We had a wonderful meeting in Minneapolis due in large part to Lois Hendrickson and the Local Arrangements Committee and Elisabeth Brander and the Program Committee. Many thanks again to all involved in every aspect of our program. Just last week, I shared with a faculty member from the School of Medicine here at Duke the work of Lucy Bruell and the Medical Humanities Program

at NYU's School of Medicine.

I'd also like to thank Steve Novak for his commitment the past two years serving as President. He has led us well. Steve has also graciously taken on the role editor of *The Watermark* (*temporarily?*), as you'll notice, and we should all be grateful for his skill and dedication.

Before the spirit of meeting fades, I'd like to challenge everyone to share what you are doing – either at the ALHHS program in 2017 or in *The Watermark* (or both!). When I interviewed for the position of Curator of the History of Medicine Collections here at Duke in 2010, my predecessor was present during the interview. Her words of wisdom were to join a group called the Archivists and Librarians for the History of the Health Sciences. What sage advice. The greatness of our organization is indeed based upon the strength of our members who are all doing wonderful things and making huge contributions. So please, share your accomplishments and your challenges.

Next year we will be meeting in Nashville, TN. With an average high of 78 degrees Fahrenheit in May, I'm sure we will have a wonderful time. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

### Rachel Ingold

Curator, History of Medicine Collections Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

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# 2016 ANNUAL MEETING, MINNEAPOLIS, APRIL 27-28

Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences 2016 Annual Meeting

Business Meeting: Thursday, April 28, 12:15 pm

Elmer Anderson Library, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

# Opening and Presidential Remarks: Stephen Novak

ALHHS President Stephen Novak opened the business meeting by calling for adoption of the agenda. Novak then asked Secretary Phoebe Evans Letocha to call for a vote to approve last year's minutes from the meeting in New Haven, CT, which were circulated via *The Watermark* and the listserv. The members voted to approve the minutes and adopt the agenda.

In his presidential report, Novak noted that the organization is thriving, membership up, the treasury is sound, and that member interest in the organization is high. In order to appoint a Travel Scholarship Committee, Novak acknowledged that we first had to amend the ALHHS By-Laws to create it as one of our Standing Committees. An election to do so was held this Fall, and the amendments passed 67-1. Subsequently, he appointed Susan Hoffius as first chair of the committee, and its report was discussed at the 2016 Steering Committee meeting.

Novak paid tribute to two long-standing and esteemed members who died since we last met: Joan Echtenkamp Klein and Erich Meyerhoff. Joan, besides being the first Curator of Historical Collections at the University of Virginia Health Sciences Library, held numerous positions in ALHHS, AAHM, and SAA and gave many papers at all of these organizations' meetings. Erich was a leader in American health science librarianship, founded the archives at what is now the Weill Cornell Medical Center at the very early date of 1971, and later spent an active retirement working at the NYU Medical Center Archives. He rarely missed an ALHHS or AAHM meeting even though in his last years he faced serious mobility issues. Tributes to Joan and Erich were published in the Spring 2016 *Watermark* and a short memorial video for Joan will be aired at the conclusion of the Annual Business Meeting of ALHHS. The University of Virginia Health Sciences Library has established a fund in Joan's name. Novak encouraged the Steering Committee to discuss making a contribution to that fund.



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He thanked all of the members for their service, including Local Arrangements Chair Lois Hendrickson, and outgoing members of the Steering Committee Elisabeth Brander and Bob Vietrogoski as Members-at-Large, Phoebe Evans Letocha as Secretary, and Martha Stone as Editor of *The Watermark*. He welcomed Rachel Ingold who is succeeding him as President at the end of the 2016 Business Meeting.

# Treasurer's Report: Barbara Niss

Niss reported that the organization started the year beginning April 1, 2015 with \$45,004.36 and ended March 31, 2015 with \$47,131.35. Income of \$9011.39 was from membership dues, fees for the annual meeting, advertisers, and donations. Expenses of \$6884.40 were primarily from the annual meeting and also included PayPal and SurveyMonkey fees. Niss noted that our CPA will review the books in May.

### Membership: Barbara Niss and Phoebe Evans Letocha

Niss maintains the membership database and noted that membership is fluid throughout the year. At the end of 2015 we had 176 paid members listed in the directory, which Evans Letocha distributed via the listserv on Dec. 8, 2015. Evans Letocha contacted 21 members from 2014 who did not renew for 2015 to encourage them to renew. One person rejoined for 2016, a few had changed positions, and one person politely declined. As of April 15, 2016, there were 157 members paid for 2016. An additional 32 members from 2015 have yet to renew for 2016. These numbers do not include MeMA members who are not also members of ALHHS. Non- renewing members need to renew or they will be dropped shortly after the meeting. Some new members joined for the meeting. Evans Letocha reported that the effort to include a stripped down version of the directory on the ALHHS website was delayed due to ongoing website migration issues at UCLA. This task will be passed on to our incoming Secretary Dawne Lucas.

# Program Committee Report: Stephen Novak on behalf of Elisabeth Brander

The Program Committee consisted of chair Elisabeth Brander, Dawn McInnis and Polina Ilieva. The Committee surveyed the members of both ALHHS and MeMA in September. Based on the results of the survey, we decided to have a panel discussion centered broadly on the theme of digitization. We sent out both a general call for papers and a call for panelists in September, and kept submissions open until January.

We received 5 proposals for 15 minute talks and 5 proposals for lightning talks. We refused one proposal for a 15 minute talk because we could not find any substantial information about the institution and its work. We accepted all of the proposals for

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Guest speaker Lucy Bruell of New York University. Photo credit: Stephen Greenberg.

lightning talks; however, one presenter withdrew because he was unable to attend the meeting. We also received 3 proposals for the digitization panel. Most of the responses to the Call for Papers came from ALHHS members; however, we did receive some proposals for lightning talks from MeMA members. Our keynote speaker is Lucy Bruell from the medical humanities program at New York University.

# Local Arrangements Committee Report: Stephen Novak on behalf of Lois Hendrickson

This year's Local Arrangements Committee members are: Lois Hendrickson, (chair), Elaine Challacombe (retired ALHHS member), Rachel Howell and Adrian Fischer (Bakken Library). Christopher Herzberg, Assistant in the Wangensteen Historical Library, was also involved in meeting preparation.

Lois Hendrickson and Elaine Challacombe discussed meeting venues, sites and tours in summer 2015 to begin planning this year's meeting. Auditoriums and sites for the conference sessions were discussed, restaurant choices deliberated, and tours planned. Rachel Howell and Adrian Fischer joined the group in fall 2015. Elaine undertook restaurant planning. Lois Hendrickson wrote the *Watermark* article on the Minneapolis meeting. The Elmer L. Andersen Library conference rooms and atrium at the University of Minnesota were selected and reserved in early summer 2015, as the site for the ALHHS meeting and business lunch. A conference room in an adjacent building was secured for the MeMA business lunch meeting.

Lois met with AAHM local arrangements committee members and the AAHM meeting planner in the fall at the conference hotel to work on meeting spaces for the ALHHS Steering Committee meeting, joint tours, and other logistics. Lois also worked with the AAHM conference planner and LAC to get AAHM rates extended to the ALHHS conference attendees. Additional hotels were identified and posted on the ALHHS conference website (some with a University of Minnesota business rate) as the conference hotel filled up quickly.



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Lois met with the Bakken staff to discuss tour logistics, and Lois and Jennifer Gunn (AAHM LAC) met with the director of the Archives and Special Collections to discuss tours. Lois met with the Andersen Library facilities manager to coordinate room set-up, AV procedures and other facilities issues. Lois contacted caterers to order service and food, as well as the restaurant for the Wednesday evening banquet.

In total, 75 people registered for the meeting, 67 attended the Wednesday evening dinner. As in the previous year, this year's meeting registration was combined with MeMA. An estimated 23 MeMA members were part of the total registered. To make registration easier for all parties involved, and to avoid paper forms, Lois created a Google Site and Form, which acted as the website for registration. Russell Johnson created a link to the site on the ALHHS webpage. The Google site contained conference information (transportation, hotels, visitor attractions, as well as ALHHS program and registration information.) Participants used the Google form to input their personal information, meal and tour choices. Payment was made via PayPal, code created and provided by Russell Johnson. The Google form automatically created a Google spreadsheet with all of the conference participant's information. Access to the Google site, forms and spreadsheet was shared with Steve Novak, ALHHS president, Barbara Niss, ALHHS Treasurer, Elisabeth Brander, ALHHS program chair, Watermark editor Martha Stone, MeMA president Shannon O'Dell, and the LAC committee members. Based on their recommendations, slight alterations were made to the spreadsheet to indicate MeMA memberships and payment information for use by the treasurer.

The site was ready in March and Novak sent out the initial ALHHS listserv announcement for conference registration. Steve and Lois sent follow-up reminders, in mid-March and the first weeks of April. Christopher Herzberg and Liz Hardin-Strnad helped prepare folder labels, name tags, copies, and posters. Rachel Howell and Adrian Fischer prepared program and participants documentation. Cost for name tags/menu selection labels was \$84.13.

For the Wednesday night dinner, Lois and Elaine selected Basils, a restaurant located 1.5 blocks from the Marriott conference hotel. Including service fees, tips, and taxes, the cost came to \$50/person (\$3350). 67 people paid for the dinner during registration. For the Thursday meals, University of Minnesota Catering Services was selected as the caterer for the continental breakfast for a total of \$935.49. Joseph's Catering was

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selected as the lunch caterer at a cost of \$990.59. Water and soda were purchased separately for a total of \$38.83.

The University of Minnesota's Special Collections Library, the Elmer L. Andersen Library conference rooms were selected as venues for the joint ALHHS/MeMA meeting. The Andersen conference rooms included AV and ample seating. The atrium/exhibit area was available to be used for registration and the continental breakfast and breaks. ALHHS/MeMA members had internet access through the University of Minnesota and eduroam guest network. The Andersen Conference rooms were the location for the ALHHS business meeting and lunch. The MeMA meeting and lunch were held in Wiley Hall 29, an adjacent conference room, accessible by elevator from the Andersen Library. There was no fee for any of the meeting sites or AV because Lois is a UMN library staff member.

The Elmer L. Andersen Library is located near (1.5 blocks) a Light Rail Transit (LRT) station, about a 7 minute ride from the conference hotel. After consultation with Stephen Novak, arrangements were made to purchase one day visitor passes for conference attendees at a cost of \$4.05/person. 77 passes were ordered for meeting participants and guides (\$311.85).

LAC members decided that the best options for tours were the Bakken Library (requested by MeMA), the University of Minnesota's Archives and Special Collections, including the storage caverns, which are housed in the Elmer L. Andersen Library, and the Wangensteen Historical Library of Biology and Medicine located in the BioMedical Library (Diehl Hall). Lois consulted with the Bakken Library staff, Julie Burba, Adrian Fischer and Rachel Howell about tour costs and numbers.

Hendrickson provided the following recommendations for future LAC:

Meetings with the AAHM LAC, professional meeting planner, and Osler Society LAC allowed for coordinated planning and efficiencies (Mpls convention center materials, LRT ticket purchasing, tours, meeting rooms, hotel reservations and alternative hotel reservation information).

Update the ALHHS Meeting Blue Book.



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Continue to use Google Site and Google Form for registration. Embed PayPal options into Google Form. Build a Google site using an institutional email, or one created specifically for this purpose. Share with LAC, MeMA, and AAHM Executive Council.

Promote ALHHS conference through social media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.) and other listservs (H-NET).

Continue with the ALHHS - MeMA joint meeting registration process.

# **Travel Scholarship Committee: Susan Hoffius**

The new Travel Scholarship Committee consisted of Susan Hoffius (chair), Scott Grimwood, and Jennifer Mingus, who were charged with defining "early career professionals," criteria for the awards, application procedures, accounting logistics, and then to report back to the Steering Committee at the Minneapolis meeting. The Travel Scholarship Committee presented the following recommendations to the Steering Committee:

- 1. Determine what constitutes an "early career professional." The committee submits that an "early career professional" would be someone working in the history of the health sciences for fewer than five years
- 2. Determine what the other criteria for the awards will be. The committee submits that applicants would need to submit a 500-word personal statement and a letter from their academic advisor or current employer/supervisor confirming their status as either a student or an "early career employee."
- 3. Create the procedures for applying (documentation needed; timeline, etc.) The committee has drafted an application for consideration, which includes details on documentation and timeline. [see application form printed in *Watermark*]
- 4. Work with the Treasurer to set up an account that would fund these grants. The committee chair has communicated with the ALHHS Treasurer in inquire about the best means of accounting for these funds. Per email with Barbara Niss, March 7, 2016, Barbara intends to find "a short term account and put some money in it to get some interest." The Committee chair, who also served on the Ad-hoc Committee on Finances which launched the Travel Scholarship idea, submits that the organizations they reviewed that offer this type of award are pretty evenly split between money in separate accounts and money managed in their books. In other words, some people leave all their money in one account



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and simply record its activity separately. Others actually set up a separate account. The Steering Committee should work with the Treasurer to determine the best situation for ALHHS.

After a long discussion, the Steering Committee made a few minor changes to the Travel Committee's recommendations and application. Those applying have to be ALHHS or MeMA members.

The Steering Committee noted that because this is a new committee, the travel scholarship would be approached as an experiment that will be reviewed and tweaked in the future. A rotating committee of 3 members will review applications. The Travel Scholarship Committee will work on guidelines for the research travel part of the travel scholarship in future. The Steering Committee voted to name of the travel scholarship in memory of Joan Echtenkamp Klein.

# **Nominating Committee Report: Tim Pennycuff**

The Nomination Committee for 2016 consisted of Michael North, chair, Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, and Tim Pennycuff.

The slate of officers proposed to the membership for 2016 was:

Secretary: Dawne Lucas, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

Member-at-Large: Lori Curtis, Loma Linda University Member-at-Large: Scott Grimwood, SSM Health Care

Online voting was conducted via the ALHHS account on SurveyMonkey with a page created by Phoebe Evans Letocha and with initial vote information and gentle reminders distributed to the listserv by Tim Pennycuff. The vote was open to the membership from March 8th until April 1st. A total of 81 members (44% of membership) cast votes during the election, with the proposed slate of officers approved by the society's membership. Their terms begin at the end of the 2016 ALHHS Annual Meeting, on April 28, 2016.

### **Publications Awards Committee Report: Keith Mages**

The Publications Committee consisted of chair Keith Mages (S. J. Wood Library, Weill Cornell Medical Center), Megan Rosenbloom (Norris Medical Library, USC), Toby Appel (retired, Cushing/Whitney Medical Library, Yale). Call for nominations went out to the membership via: ALHHS listserv on November 24, 2015 and closed on January 7, 2016. 5 nominations were received for 3 categories. The committee evaluated all



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nominations separately, following the criteria set forth on page 17 of the ALHHS Procedures Manual. After evaluation, all members of the committee agreed to award the 2016 ALHHS Publication Awards to the following nominated members:

<u>Best Monograph</u>: W. Bruce Fye. *Caring for the Heart: Mayo Clinic and the Rise of Specialization*. 2015, Oxford University Press.

<u>Best Article:</u> Emily R. Novak Gustainis and Phoebe Evans Letocha. 2015. "The Practice of Privacy" in *Innovation, Collaboration and Models: Proceedings of the CLIR Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives Symposium*, CLIR publication 169: 63-176. Accessed January 7, 2016. <a href="http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub169/gustainis-letocha">http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub169/gustainis-letocha</a>

<u>Best Online Resource</u>: Joanne Murray, Margaret Graham, Melissa Mandell, Matt Herbison, Roísín Roche, and Chrissie Perella. *Doctor or Doctress? Explore American History through the Eyes of Women Physicians.* The Legacy Center, Drexel University College of Medicine Archives & Special Collections. Philadelphia, PA. September 2014. <a href="https://www.doctordoctress.org">www.doctordoctress.org</a>

Mages presented the awards to Fye, Gustainis and Evans Letocha, who were in attendance. In thanking the organization, Fye read from his April 1982 address at the annual meeting, "Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences: Challenges & Opportunities in the 80's" and noted that some of the same challenges exist today. His 1982 talk is available on the ALHHS website: http://iis-

exhibits.library.ucla.edu/alhhs/Watermark Vol 06 No 4 April 1983.pdf
For their award, Gustainis and Evans Letocha thanked the Medical Heritage Library for fostering their collaboration out of which their article emerged. They encouraged members to implement their recommendations. ALHHS members from Drexel, Murray and Perella were not present to accept their award.

## Holloway/Recognition of Merit Awards Committee Report: Judy Chelnick

The Recognition Awards Committee was assembled by the chair of the committee Judy M. Chelnick, Curator, Division of Medicine and Science, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution. The other two committee members are Judith A. Wiener, Associate Professor and Assistant Director, Health Sciences Library Collections and Outreach, The Ohio State University, and Eric Boyle, formerly Chief Archivist, the National Museum of Health and Medicine, now Chief Historian at the Department of Energy. The committee received one nomination for the Lisabeth M. Holloway Award and none for the ALHHS Recognition of Merit. There were numerous letters of

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recommendation for Arlene Shaner, Reference Librarian for Historical Collections, The New York Academy of Medicine. The Recognition Awards Committee unanimously agreed to bestow the 2016 Lisabeth M. Holloway Award to Arlene Shaner. The letters of recommendation were all very compelling. Arlene has made tremendous lifetime contributions to the New York Academy of Medicine and herculean achievements to the ALHHS.

Following much excitement, popping of fireworks, and a standing ovation, Shaner's achievements were recounted:



Holloway Award winner Arlene Shaner (r.) and committee chair Judy Chelnick Photo credit: Stephen Greenberg.

Arlene has been with the New York
Academy of Medicine since 2001. Presently
she is the Reference Librarian for Historical
Collections, and from 2011 to 2014 she took
on the additional role as the Acting Curator
of Special Collections. Arlene has made
significant contributions through her
leadership and service to NYAM. She is
passionate about sharing her knowledge
with professionals and students alike, and

has cultivated and guided many to the Friends of the Rare Book Collection. As a librarian she leaves no stone unturned when helping patrons with questions, and she has gained legions of admirers.

Arlene is actively involved with ALHHS. She served as Secretary/Treasurer, and continued as Treasurer until 2013. She has also served on the Program Planning Committee. Arlene took on the herculean task of obtaining 501(3c) designation for ALHHS. After years of arduous and frustrating work the organization is now exempted from income tax.

Besides the NYAM and ALHHS, Arlene has been active in the American Library Association, Association of College Research Libraries, Rare Books and Manuscript Section, the Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, and Medical Archivists of New York. Equally as important, Arlene has been a mentor to many in the profession.

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As one colleague wrote, "I can think of no one who better exemplifies the qualities of significant contributions through leadership and service to ALHHS and the profession that this award recognizes".

In expressing her thanks, Shaner said she was honored to receive the award. She benefited from the generosity and expertise of colleagues, a love of history of medicine collections, and the people who share what they know and to help others as we move forward in our profession.

# The Watermark Editor's Report: Martha Stone

Since last year's Annual Meeting, four issues of *The Watermark* have been published electronically, ranging in length from 50 to 67 pages with an average of 60 pages per issue.

Personnel includes Martha Stone as Editor, Jack Eckert as Associate Editor, Brooke Fox as Layout Editor, Pat Gallagher as Book Review Editor, Jonathon Erlen as Associate Book Review Editor, Jenn Nelson as *MeMA Notes* Editor. Webmaster Russell Johnson was responsible for the inclusion of each issue on the ALHHS website, where all issues remain available. One of five advertisers declined to continue advertising. Financial aspects concerning advertising will be found in the Treasurer's report.

Stone noted that as announced in her Editorial in the Spring 2016 issue, she is stepping down after completion of two years as editor. She thanked outgoing President Stephen Novak for all his support and assistance. She expressed deep gratitude to *The Watermark* staff, and to everyone who contributed content, ranging from brief announcements and member profiles, to book reviews, news round-ups, feature articles, and everything in between. These past eight issues have been a tremendously educational and thoroughly enjoyable experience.

### Website and Listserv Report: Russell Johnson

For the website, Johnson reported the following:

• We had hiccups in getting files loaded in a timely manner for the first half of the year. The UCLA Library Cold Fusion server was decommissioned, and our website moved to a new, temporary server. Access was controlled by library IT, which was mostly uncommunicative and unresponsive. Direct access for the ALHHS web administrator was finally restored in January. The website will need to be migrated to a

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non-UCLA Library server during the coming year; options are being investigated and suggestions are invited.

- The most recent section to the website, "Presentations", again invites PowerPoint and other presentations at annual meetings to be archived here (with permission) for the use of ALHHS members and others.
- The PayPal payment option for New Member application / Continuing member renewal fees and annual meeting registration fees is running smoothly and is easily updateable.
- Many thanks to Lori Curtis for the fillable membership forms we use on the website.
- A goal that was supposed to be accomplished this past year but wasn't: load *Watermark* issues into the eScholarship permanent online repository.
- The "HIPAA Resource Page" (<a href="http://www.alhhs.org/hipaa sthc alhhs.html">http://www.alhhs.org/hipaa sthc alhhs.html</a>), moved to our site in March 2014, was updated in August 2014. It is not clear which committee or task force is responsible for supplying additional content for this site.
- A reminder or nudge: The most recent edition of our "ALHHS Blue Book / Guidelines for the Annual Meetings" (<a href="http://www.ishn.org/alhhs-bluebook-2008.pdf">http://www.ishn.org/alhhs-bluebook-2008.pdf</a>) is June 2008.

Johnson reported the following for the listserv

- ALHHS Treasurer Barbara Niss and Johnson communicate regularly about renewals, non-renewals, and new members, to make list subscriptions reflect active membership in the society.
- "A Good Thing We Don't Offer Automatic, Unmediated/Unfiltered Subscriptions" news: more than 4000 (compared to 1300 last year) Spam subscription attempts were thwarted by the listserv firewall.

# **ALHHS Archives Report: Stephen Novak for Jodi Koste**

The ALHHS Archives, residing at the Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences at Virginia Commonwealth University, received several additions in the last year. A cloud storage space in Google was established to provide additional back-up for the organization's electronic records. The born-digital copies of the *Watermark* from 2009 to the present were transferred along with the membership directories, and the recent survey. The archives include two CDs with images and video. These were also copied into Google for additional backup. There were no reference requests in the past year.

Old Business: None

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#### **New Business**

- Christine Ruggere announced that the new online program in the history of medicine
  at Johns Hopkins University is a great success. In this academic program, students
  can take single courses, receive a certificate, or obtain a masters degree online,
  which is cheaper than onsite at Johns Hopkins University. She encouraged members
  to consider this program.
- 2. Steven Greenberg announced that the Medical Library Association has renamed the Murray Gottlieb Prize as the Erich Meyerhoff Prize. The purpose of the prize is to recognize and stimulate interest in the history of the health sciences. The Meyerhoff Prize is awarded annually for the best unpublished scholarly paper about a topic in the history of the health sciences. The author of the winning essay receives complimentary registration to the annual meeting, a certificate at the association's annual meeting, and a cash award of \$500 after the annual meeting.
- 3. After acknowledging Martha Stone's service as *Watermark* editor, Steve Novak encouraged the membership to consider stepping up to serve as editor. In the meantime he has agreed to serve as interim editor for the summer issue. He noted that there is a need to update the *Watermark* template.
- 4. Novak also called for greater interest in the ALHHS social media presence and acknowledged our need for social media skills. We had a Facebook page 7 years ago that is inactive. We need a Twitter presence. He hoped the new board will take on this task.



Outgoing President Stephen Novak passes on ceremonial bottle of aspirin to incoming President Rachel Ingold. Photo credit: Stephen Greenberg.

5. The members viewed a tribute video to Joan Echtenkamp Klein that combined photographs of Joan at work, at conferences and with ALHHS colleagues that was set to some of her favorite music.

At the conclusion of the New Business, President Novak continued the tradition of passing on a bottle of aspirin to incoming President Rachel Ingold. He then moved to adjourn, which was approved by the membership.

Respectfully submitted, **Phoebe Evans Letocha**ALHHS Secretary

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# 2016 ALHHS Publication Award Winners

This past Winter the Publication Awards Committee called for, and received nominations from, the ALHHS membership for the Annual Publication Awards in the categories of *Monograph, Article*, and *Online Resource*.

Our Committee, which consisted of myself, Megan Rosenbloom from USC, and Toby Appel of Yale, was grateful to have received nominations in each category and set to work in January to thoroughly evaluate each nominee.

Guided by the criteria for award consideration as outlined in the ALHHS Procedures Manual, each nominated work was evaluated by our committee for its:

- · Quality and style
- · Contribution to the field
- And overall relevance to the profession

We were extremely impressed by the depth of talent shown by the authors of all nominated works. (This is actually a double-edged sword though when you are on a committee like this: while the reviewing process is enjoyable and enlightening, the selection process becomes quite difficult!)

We were however able to agree on three winning nominations, one each for the categories of *Monograph*, *Article*, and *Online Resource*.

# Winner in the Monograph category:



Publications Award winner Bruce Fye. Photo credit: Stephen Greenberg.

Dr. W. Bruce Fye

Caring for the Heart: Mayo Clinic and the Rise of

Specialization.

Oxford University Press, 2015.

In *Caring for the Heart*, Fye masterfully connected diverse strands of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century American health care history though the lens of one particular institution. From medical sub-specialization and residency education to heart transplantation, major developments in American medicine are touched upon, all viewed from the perspective of Minnesota's own Mayo Clinic. Fye's passion for, and authority on,

the subject matter was clearly appreciable by us as reviewers. Quite simply, our committee found this monograph to be an extraordinary piece of historical work.



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# Winner in the Article category:

Emily R. Novak Gustainis & Phoebe Evans Letocha

"The Practice of Privacy" in Innovation,
Collaboration and Models: Proceedings of the
CLIR Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and
Archives Symposium, March 2015.
CLIR publication 169: 163-176.



Publications Award winners Phoebe Evans Letocha (c.) and Emily Novak Gustainis (r.) with committee chair Keith Mages. Photo credit: Stephen Greenberg.

Novak Gustainis & Evans Letocha's Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) sponsored project "Private Practices, Public Health: Privacy-Aware Processing to Maximize Access to Health Collections" resulted in the production of this piece which details the nuances of working with protected health information. Specifically, The Practice of Privacy cogently articulates best practices when working with these types of materials, making recommendations to enable and enhance access. Overall, our committee was impressed at the immense professional value and inspired by the practical, implementable findings.

# Winner in the Online Resource category:

Joanne Murray & Chrissie Perella

Doctor or Doctress? Explore American History through the Eyes of Women Physicians.

The Legacy Center, Drexel University College of Medicine Archives & Special Collections. Philadelphia, PA. September 2014.

URL: www.doctordoctress.org

Murray and Perella's (along with non-ALHHS co-creators Margaret Graham, Melissa Mandell, Matt Herbison, & Roísín Roche) online resource reaches out to viewers with immediate visual impact and insightful historical narratives, all built around a large and diverse group of primary sources. We were impressed by *Doctor or Doctress*'s primary goal: to introduce high school students and their educators to the history of women in medicine and to the notion that history as a medium can evoke "surprise, righteous indignation, awe and inspiration..." We as a committee wholeheartedly agree, and *Doctor or Doctress?* offers this often difficult-to-reach group ample resources to understand just why history matters.



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**Keith Mages, Chair** Samuel Wood Library Weill Cornell Medical College

# **Presentations**

# A Book by its Cover: Identifying & Scientifically Testing the World's Books Bound in Human Skin

Librarians in North America and Europe might be surprised to find some macabre relics gathering dust in their stacks. Anthropodermic bibliopegy was the practice of binding books in human skin, and occurred mainly in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The human leather was tanned in much the same way as the skins of other animals. The skin was usually removed and tanned by doctors, sometimes from indigent patients or from executed prisoners, to cover books in the doctors' personal collections. The rumors about this practice began around the French Revolution, coinciding with the birth of the clinical medicine system we know today. The implications of this little-known practice speak to the time when the teaching clinic and advances in diagnostic testing enabled doctors to examine patients at more minute scales, leading to a clinical gaze where patients became viewed more as organs and symptoms than whole people. The practice of anthropodermic bibliopegy shows what can happen when that objectifying gaze is taken to the extreme.

The previous literature on this practice is problematic. Most of what exists – whether it stems from early 20<sup>th</sup> century book trade publications and newspapers or medical and library journals – rehashes long-held rumors with little investigation of historical or scientific fact. Unsubstantiated claims (like the existence of a French Revolutionary-era house of horrors in Meudon where human skin culottes and books were made from the aristocracy) were repeated throughout the years without any basis in reality. I have been unable to uncover any attempts at creating a census of these kinds of books in public collections. Any previous attempts at testing relied on subjective visual inspection. The advent of DNA testing held some initial promise, but DNA degrades over time and that degradation is hastened by the chemical processes that turn a hide into leather. Also DNA tests are too sensitive and can result in false positives triggered from previous handling by human hands.

At Harvard, conservator Alan Puglia requested scientific testing of the university's three alleged anthropodermic books from chemist Daniel Kirby. Of the three, *Des Destinées de l'Ame* was the only one proven to be real human skin. The test Kirby used is called Peptide Mass Fingerprinting (PMF), followed by Liquid Chromotagraphy-Tandem Mass



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Spectrometry (LCMSMS). The test is minimally destructive, cheap, and over 99% conclusive at distinguishing a leather binding's animal family of origin. Each animal family shares a set of peptide markers that distinguish it from other families, and the protein where the markers reside is far more stable than DNA and can last thousands of years. Any sample visible by the human eye is more than enough material to use for the test, which produces the telltale peaks and valleys on a graph that correspond with an animal family. When a sample tests positive for the great ape family, the LCMSMS testing confirms the results as human to an even greater degree of accuracy.

Kirby's initial test with Harvard drew a lot of attention from the media and from institutions with books to test. Another chemist, Richard Hark of Juniata College, became interested in testing its alleged anthropodermic book (which turned out to be fake) and he expressed interest in finding more books to test. I met Kirby while researching the historical aspects of these books and we decided to compare notes about which alleged books we've discovered. Then Mütter Museum curator Anna Dhody, whose institution has the largest collection of scientifically confirmed anthropodermic books, joined the burgeoning team. We now call ourselves The Anthropodermic Book Project (https://anthropodermicbooks.org/).

The Anthropodermic Book Project aims to identify and test as many alleged anthropodermic books as possible. This goal is sometimes met with reticence on behalf of the institutions that house the books for a multitude of reasons. Some institutions do not like the amount of attention their alleged human skin books get at the expense of other collection items. Some fear the controversy they might spark in their communities. Institutions whose staffs are less than enthused about owning these books are sometimes relieved when the bindings turn out not to be of human skin. We hope to correct the murky historical record about these objects through this testing that will result in new publications in a variety of platforms from the team members. We would also like to see a standard adopted for catalog description or subject headings for anthropodermic books. We see potential benefit for the rare book community in establishing PMF testing as a prerequisite for booksellers to sell a book claiming to be bound in human skin to protect buyers from fraudulent claims.

We would like to work towards a census of these materials, but that goal is stymied a bit by the decision we made to offer confidentiality to the institutions in their testing. We offered this confidentiality in order to make institutions comfortable with the idea of testing, knowing the results were theirs to share publicly or not. We have since decided

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to provide disclosure agreements to testing sites to give them the opportunity to consent affirmatively to certain kinds of sharing of their results – anonymous, named, accompanying photos, etc. – when they receive their test results. We are going back retroactively to obtain consent for sharing results from those who have been previously tested. These privacy concerns do not extend to information about alleged books being housed at a certain institution or the histories of those books, as the information about the books' existence was found on the open Internet, in library catalogs, or in scholarly literature, and we therefore consider that public information.

As of April 2016, the team has identified 47 alleged anthropodermic books in the world's libraries and museums. Of those, 30 books have been tested or are in the process of being tested. Seventeen of the books have been confirmed as having human skin bindings and nine were proven to be not of human origin but of sheep, pig, cow, or other animals.

Anthropodermic books are not merely a macabre fascination of the library world but have interesting implications for many areas of teaching. For the medical community, these books provide memorable, tangible insight into the history of the medical profession, the development of medical ethics and consent, as well as the concept of the clinical gaze and patient objectification. These books are of particular interest to scholars of the history of the book, and the new science being done with these old objects points to the importance of the physical book object in an increasingly digital world. Human skin books bring up interesting issues, familiar to our museum colleagues, about libraries' responsibilities regarding human remains in their collections, along with conservation concerns that must weigh access to the books against the unusual amount of handling they often endure as objects. Though anthropodermic books have a disturbing legacy, these controversial objects continue to teach us.

### Megan Rosenbloom

Associate Director for Collection Resources Norris Medical Library University of Southern California

This and other presentations given at the Annual Meeting will soon be available to read on the ALHHS website – Ed.



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# Photos from the Annual Meeting

By Stephen Greenberg



Dinner at Basil's



Dinner at Basil's



Meeting

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# **MEMA NOTES**

### New Member Focus

Adrian Fischer recently joined the Medical Museums Association. He is the curator of instruments at The Bakken Museum in Minneapolis, having started in 2009. He received a MS in Meteorology from Freie Universität Berlin,



Adrian Fischer, Curator of Instruments, Bakken Museum, leads a tour through storage. Photo credit: Kristen Vogt Veggeberg.

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Germany, and a MA in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine from the University of Minnesota. When I asked him why he likes his job, he said, "Besides my interest in the history of electricity and magnetism and their roles in the life sciences and medicine, it is the diversity of tasks that makes working at The Bakken very enjoyable. There is this wonderful feeling when you sit in front of an artifact and start learning about its history, use, and workings – it makes the object come to life." Adrian's responsibilities range from collection management, exhibit development, installation, and maintenance, presenting the collection to the public, and working with volunteers.

# The Bakken Museum Tour



Members enjoy the exhibits at the Bakken
Museum. Photo credit: Kristen Vogt Veggeberg.

Adrian was one of the behind-the-scenes tour leaders, along with Chief Curator Juliet Burba and Books Curator Rachel Howell at the Bakken Museum on April 27. Several MeMA and ALHHS members were shuttled to the museum located in a residential area of Minneapolis, with a special drive-by salute to the house used for the exterior setting for the 1970s era "Mary Tyler Moore"

Show" TV series. The tour included time to explore the exhibitions, a special display room

of museum collection favorites, a behind-the-scenes storage tour as well as a temporary display of artifacts, books and documents hand-picked by the staff just for our group. We got a charge out of the static electricity demonstration. The end was capped off with a recorded dramatic presentation of 18 year old Mary Shelley's story about Frankenstein's monster in his creator's laboratory.

# Shannon O'Dell, President of MeMA (2015-2017)

Curator & Director Sindecuse Museum of Dentistry University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

# MeMA Business Meeting Summary

The MeMA Business Meeting was held in Minneapolis on April 28, 2016 during the MeMA/ALHHS Annual Meeting. Twelve members attended. The 2016 membership has grown, with 23 renewing and 7 new members. Today the roster has grown to 36.

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MeMA's Secretary-Treasurer, Kristen Vogt Veggeberg provided her last Secretary-Treasurer's report and has finished her term. Cassie Nespor, Curator of the Melnick



Artifacts considered staff favorites were selected for discussion by the Bakken curators. Photo credit: Kristen Vogt Veggeberg.

Medical Museum at Youngstown State University (Ohio), was elected (in absentia) as the incoming Secretary-Treasurer for 2016-2018 term. The transition of this office will occur over the next two months, with Cassie taking responsibility for the finances. The remaining positions remain filled by the current officers.

MeMA may reconstitute a travel award/stipend for one or two members who need additional funds to attend a future annual meeting. Please contact the President, Shannon O'Dell (<a href="mailto:shannon@umich.edu">shannon@umich.edu</a>) if you can assist Sarah Alger (<a href="mailto:salger@mgh.harvard.edu">salger@mgh.harvard.edu</a>) who is leading the Travel Award Committee for MeMA. Details about available funds and applicant requirements will be suggested by the committee and followed up by final review by MeMA officers.

# Shannon O'Dell, President of MeMA (2015-2017)

## Renovations at the Macaulay Museum of Dental History

Renovations have begun on the Macaulay Museum of Dental History at the Medical University of South Carolina. Located in the historical heart of the Medical University of South Carolina campus in Charleston, the Macaulay Museum of Dental History was established in 1975 by Dr. Neill W. Macaulay for whom the museum is named. Dr. Macaulay was an avid historian of dental practice and during his lifetime amassed a large collection of dental memorabilia. Dr. Macaulay's



Concept drawing of interior exhibits, by Hutchinson Studios LLC.

collection is one of the few remaining dental museums in the country and showcases the dental profession including practice and education. The project will include total interior



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renovation and exhibit redesign. The rededication of the museum is scheduled for April 2017 to coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the founding of the James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine at MUSC. Follow renovation progress on Instagram at @macaulaymuseum.

## Susan Hoffius, M.S.

Curator, Waring Historical Library Medical University of South Carolina

# Innovations in Amputee Care Discussed at Science Café

Director of the Brigham and Women's Hospital Lower Extremity Transplant Program and Research Scientist for the MIT Center for Extreme Bionics, Matthew Carty, MD, visited the National Museum of Health and Medicine (NMHM) to speak at the April 26, 2016 Science Café about the recent major innovations in the care of the amputee patient.

According to Carty, there are nearly 600,000 major lower extremity amputations each year. About 20 percent of these amputations are due to some type of trauma; the rest are due to dysvascular problems such as diabetes. Lower extremity amputations are three times as common as upper limb amputations due to the fact that legs are much more exposed and susceptible to injury. The work being done by Carty and his colleagues helps the amputee patient regain a sense of normalcy.

"Whenever there is an impairment suffered by an amputee patient, there are not only significant functional issues, but psychological issues as well," said Carty. "This impairment impedes their ability to interact with the world and be part of the social fabric we have in terms of community and sociability."

Patients can often experience severe pain where their limb once was and they lose proprioception, which refers to the sense of knowing where their limb is in space without visually looking at it.

Wendy Dean, PhD, Medical Officer at the US Army's Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC), said: "Just returning proprioception to our wounded warrior amputees would be of great benefit. Also returning sensation would be a remarkable achievement, which would restore some critical aspects of function not possible today."



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Prosthetics and reconstruction are the two most common options when it comes to replacing an appendage. Replantation is another option, but is much rarer. Carty said: "With replantation the sensory recovery for the patient can be quite good. It can take up to 17 or 18 operations to achieve successful replantation."

Carty also pointed out that several victims of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing underwent limb salvage quite successfully. If a limb cannot be rebuilt, there are other procedures which involve the moving of tendons or nerves, or taking tissue from another part of the body to fill in the defect. However, prosthetics are often used as a common replacement for an amputated appendage.

"The level of function that can be achieved with lower-limb prosthetics is actually quite good. They are customizable and there are various versions. The downside is prosthetics require frequent refitting and the patient does not regain their sense of feeling," Carty said.

"Dr. Carty's research holds promise for improving outcomes of all amputees, but may hold particular promise for those looking to return to very high levels of function, such as military amputees," Dean said. The Armed Forces Institute of Regenerative Medicine (AFIRM), which is managed and funded through USAMRMC, is working to develop advanced treatment options for our severely wounded servicemen and women.

Leg prosthetics, in particular, are closer to replacing the normal function of the original limb. Science Café attendees were shown a video clip of a veteran running on an uneven terrain on grass, which would have been impossible five years ago, according to Carty.

"There has also been exponential advancement in terms of sophistication in electronics in prosthetics," Carty said. "A lot of this has to do with the technology that is in a cell phone. The miniaturization of accelerometers and other various types of microelectronics has made it possible to advance certain robotic prosthetics."

NMHM recently accessioned a "DEKA Arm" into the historical collection of prosthetics that includes a Civil War-era Gildea artificial arm and a prosthetic artificial arm worn by wounded World War II veteran Robert O. Burkhardt. The DEKA Arm is the same size and weight as a natural human arm and was developed by Segway inventor Dean Kamen. The prosthetic senses movement via electrodes and translates those



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movements into powered motor controls for the device. The DEKA Arm project was funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), which contributed an example of the device to NMHM.

"Currently," Carty said, "there are prosthetics that are capable of giving info back to the body - bi-directional interactivity - the problem is there is no straightforward way to connect to the brain." Carty added that the goal is to figure out a way of connecting a prosthetic to the brain so the patient can feel sensations and have seamless movement much like with a natural appendage.

Carty is also optimistic that limb transplantation will be a viable option in the near future. According to Carty, the current setback is the time it takes for nerve regrowth. "Nerves regrow at the rate of a millimeter a day," says Carty. "This means it can take years for the patient to have full functionality and they would require intense physical therapy." Despite the setbacks, in one survey Carty presented, 43 percent of amputee patients showed interest in limb transplantation.

NMHM's Medical Museum Science Cafés are a regular series of informal talks that connect the mission of the Department of Defense museum with the public. NMHM was founded as the Army Medical Museum in 1862 and moved to its current location in Silver Spring, Maryland in 2012. NMHM is an element of the Defense Health Agency. For more information on upcoming events, please call 301-319-3303 or visit <a href="https://www.medicalmuseum.mil">www.medicalmuseum.mil</a>.

# **Daniel Daglis**

National Museum of Health and Medicine Sourced, with permission, from:

http://www.medicalmuseum.mil/index.cfm?p=media.news.article.2016.06012016

### History and Science at the Bakken Museum

Understanding the role of electricity in history is crucial to many subjects, but perhaps none more so than medicine, which often dances between the humanity of history and the staunchness of physical science. At the Bakken Museum, we were given a tour of both the exhibits and the collections, which were housed in the beautiful mansion of Edward Bakken, the founder of Medtronic, which is responsible for producing multiple forms of medical technology involving electricity, including the pacemaker. For a topic that seems to belong so distinctively to physics, electricity in this case was gently

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humanized by both the narrative and visual presentations at the museum, many of which were informed by Bakken's personal interests in electricity.

This was perhaps best exemplified by the various medical instruments that we were shown throughout the Bakken's collections. Within this foundation, it included many storied parts of medical and electrical history, ranging from the necessary (EEGs and pacemakers) to the quackery (electric belts for losing weight, anyone?). Our tour of the Bakken also included some delightful hands-on activities, such as 'Franklin's Bells.' In this part of the museum, hosted in a small alcove, all of Benjamin Franklin's electricity-based parlor games were there for us to engage with. And,



X-Ray unit in storage, used in mid-20<sup>th</sup> century stores to fit customers for shoes. Photo credit: Kristen Vogt Veggeberg.

like proper guests of this fine house of learning, we played and toyed with the electricity, using currents to ring bells and gently send shockwaves through each other. Once again, we were reminded of the role of the human body and electricity.

It is a perpetual challenge for medical museums to escape the grotesque in collections; after all, it is within the medical museum that issues of what is normal in the human body is explored and, in the past, exploited. Bakken himself became interested in electricity after seeing *Frankenstein* as a boy, bewitched by the idea that a being could come back to life through the use of electricity. In the collections, our curator guides were pleased to



Frankenstein's monster is presumed to lie just under the sheets that shift around during the telling of his plights in the museum's special display. Photo credit: Kristen Vogt Veggeberg.

show us some beautiful books that showcased different scientific discoveries during the Enlightenment in Europe, showing the use of dissected frogs' legs to see if electric current could make them move. Due to Bakken's interest in Mary Shelley's masterpiece, multiple copies of *Frankenstein* were also available for us to see, including several first editions (1818). Naturally, this led us to the grand finale of the tour, a live-action experience of *Frankenstein*, done in a



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manner very similar to the "London Dungeon," complete with dim lights, jumps, and a growling monster's voice that threatened the audience like Shelley's creation.

Engaging, well-narrated, and storied in both fantasy and reality, the Bakken Museum was an unusual experience, but lovely. It was an excellent narrative journey showcasing all of the lines that we hold dear in medical history, ranging from the necessary, to the scientific, to the heart-breaking and horrifying.

# Kristen Vogt Veggeberg

Doctoral Candidate and Researcher College of Education University of Illinois at Chicago

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

# Dr. Patricia Flatley Brennan Appointed Director of the National Library of Medicine

National Institutes of Health Director Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD, has announced that Patricia Flatley Brennan, RN, PhD, will be the next director of the National Library of Medicine (NLM).

Dr. Brennan comes to NLM from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she is the Lillian L. Moehlman Bascom Professor, School of Nursing and College of Engineering. She also leads the <u>Living Environments</u>
<u>Laboratory</u> at the <u>Wisconsin Institute for Discovery</u> that develops new ways for effective visualization of high



dimensional data. A recipient of many awards, Dr. Brennan is a past-president of the American Medical Informatics Association, a member of the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine), and a fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics, the American Academy of Nursing, and the New York Academy of Medicine.



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"I have had the great pleasure of knowing and working with Patti Brennan for more than two decades," said NLM Acting Director Betsy L. Humphreys. "Her wide-ranging contributions to informatics research, program development, education, and health information policy are well-known to many NLM users, supporters, and staff members. She has a longstanding appreciation and understanding of NLM and its important work. In my view," Ms. Humphreys continued, "Dr. Brennan's expertise and experience – and her focus on developing health information systems that support patients, caregivers, and the general public – are a great fit for NLM at this point in the Library's history. She will also bring a valuable perspective to NIH as it launches the Precision Medicine Initiative Cohort program."

"I am honored and delighted to be appointed director of the National Library of Medicine," Dr. Brennan noted. "The leadership of Donald Lindberg and preceding directors established a great platform on which to build the Library's third century. I look forward to working with the national and international stakeholders of the NLM, the NLM staff, and the NIH leadership in crafting a next strategic plan to serve science and society. I am grateful for the many efforts of my colleague, NLM Acting Director Betsy Humphreys, during the transition process."

Dr. Brennan expects to begin work at the Library in August.

### NLM Announces Selection of 2016-2017 Associate Fellows

The National Library of Medicine (NLM), the world's largest biomedical library and a component of the National Institutes of Health, is pleased to announce the selection of its 2016-2017 class of Associate Fellows. Four fellows will join NLM in the fall of 2016.

The Associate Fellowship Program is a residency fellowship at the NLM located on the campus of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. The one-year program, beginning in September every year, offers a robust educational and leadership experience, ranging from formal lectures and presentations to projects in operations, research and development, policy, and data analysis, all within the context of the role of a national library on the national and international stage.

More information on the Associate Fellowship Program is available at: <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/about/training/associate/proginfo.html">http://www.nlm.nih.gov/about/training/associate/proginfo.html</a>



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Kendra Godwin received her MLIS degree from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 2016. While completing her degree, Ms. Godwin worked as a public service assistant at the UCLA Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library, where she provided reference services and contributed to a curriculum mapping project for the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. In her second year, she interned at the USC Norris Medical Library, the NN/LM Pacific Southwest Region, and the UCLA Charles E. Young Research Library, with projects that focused on metadata for an orthopedic surgical anatomy teaching collection, clinical data management for hospital librarians, and open access policies for university staff. Ms. Godwin holds a BA in English from Lewis & Clark College, with a year spent abroad at Munich's Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität.

Megan Kellner received her MLS degree from the University of Maryland in 2016. While completing her degree, Ms. Kellner interned with the National Library of Medicine, where she created a PubMed for Nurses video tutorial to provide nurses and nursing students with an introduction to searching the literature. She worked on several education and outreach projects as an intern at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Additionally, she worked as the Graduate Assistant for Teaching and Outreach at the University of Maryland Libraries, leading information literacy instruction sessions. Ms. Kellner completed her undergraduate degree in Health Administration and Policy with a minor in Management of Aging Services at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and spent two weeks studying cardiovascular disease prevention in Switzerland and Italy.

Tyler Alicía Moses received her MLS degree from Texas Woman's University in 2016. Ms. Moses also earned a Graduate Certificate in Evidence-based Health Science Librarianship from the same university. While completing her degree, Ms. Moses interned at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio where she assisted in various projects such as verifying access to electronic resources and performing quality control of scanned images of historical medical journals. Ms. Moses volunteered at the Igo Library, a branch of the San Antonio Public Library system, where she assisted in processing returned material, weeding, and shelving material. Ms. Moses earned academic and professional development scholarships from the Texas Library Association, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, and Medical Library Association during her academic tenure at Texas Woman's University. Ms. Moses also holds an MS in Health Studies from Texas Woman's University and a BA in English from Texas A&M University-San Antonio.



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Candace Norton received her MLS degree from Texas Woman's University in 2015. While completing her degree, Ms. Norton worked full-time with Evidera, Inc., a life sciences and biopharmaceutical consulting company headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland. As the solo librarian, she managed all aspects of library operations including collection development, copyright compliance, policy development and implementation, reference support, and resource training. Ms. Norton's interest in the connection between community health and information access began during her undergraduate studies. She completed a joint internship between her university library and a local HIV/AIDS advocacy non-profit to catalog and process for circulation a donated private library. Ms. Norton holds a bachelor's degree in Women's Studies from Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia.

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# **NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME LIBRARY**

# Searching for a Solution: Digitising Chemist and Druggist

Consisting of 150 years of articles, editorials, and advertisements related to the pharmaceutical trade, *Chemist and Druggist* recently became our first journal fully digitised through our digitisation programme. The run of the journal covers a diversity of approaches to health and treatment from the mid-19th to the 21st century.

We photographed nearly 7,000 issues containing 535,000 pages of OCR (Optical Character Recognition) data, now all freely available for anyone to view and download by issue or page. In addition, you can search within a particular issue, either through the Library catalogue, or on the Internet Archive website.

The biggest challenge of this project was to enable searching across the entire 150 year run of the journal. But the sheer quantity of the *Chemist and Druggist* OCR data, all linked to the standard single catalogue record for the journal title, exceeded the maximum file size that our Library catalogue's Java 6 environment could handle. We're still working on a solution that will allow searching across the whole journal run. Understandably we're all frustrated at the delay.

In the meantime we've been looking for alternative ways to search the whole journal. I noticed that Google indexes all the OCR data for every work on the Internet Archive website. This means that by creating a <u>custom search for the site</u> – the equivalent of



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a local Google search box – and limiting it to select only pages with a URL containing our unique identifier for *Chemist and Druggist* we could have a word search across all the *Chemist and Druggist* pages on the Internet Archive site. By appending .txt to the search I was able to limit the search to just full text OCR.

From there it was just a case of finding the optimal layout to display as many results as possible – Google limits results to just 10 pages regardless of how many results are on each page.

The custom site is not pretty and the output is fairly crude, but at least you can identify instances of a keyword or phrase across the whole run of the journal. There are limitations:

- You can't search within a date range
- The results don't link to the digitised page where the text occurs, but to the OCR text for the page (hence the crude output)

What it does give you is the context of your search terms in the full text and details of the issues they were found in. Although you then have to go back to the <u>Wellcome Library website</u> and find the issue to see the original digitised page, the process works. (Colleagues who've tried it say it's especially good at tracking down names of people, brands and businesses across the issues and years or for providing clues for where to start researching a topic).

Why not give it a go, and let us know what you think. Your comments and suggestions might just help us solve the catalogue search problem as well.

Author: Damian Nicolau was Project Manager – Digitisation and Collection Management at the Wellcome Library.



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# Fish Fingers and the Coal Face: Launching the Tavistock Institute Archive Blog



How do you organise the workplace so that it better reflects the needs of its workers? What do housewives think of fish fingers? How can psychology be used and applied to recruitment processes, to help get away from wearing-the-right-colour-tie biases and nepotism? How does environmental design impact crime levels? How do you make sense of group dynamics and how organisations develop and change?

These are just some of the diverse and difficult questions asked by a team of maverick and left-field social scientists at the <u>Tavistock Institute of Human Relations</u> (TIHR) over the course of the latter half of the 20th century. These questions, answers, dilemmas, and workings-through are all documented in the extensive 70 year archive of the Tavistock, which is currently in the process of being catalogued and made accessible as part of a two- year collaborative project between TIHR and the Wellcome Library.

In the run-up to the Institute's anniversary in 2017, we will be releasing over 300 boxes of previously inaccessible material to the public, dating back to the Institute's formation in the 1940s to the current day. These papers document both the working methods and processes of social scientists and anthropologists working on the edge, and the methodological workings and practices of key industrial and organisational projects.



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Field notebooks, letters, reports, and working notes will all be opened up for researchers to make sense of, engage with, analyse and (re)interpret at the Wellcome Library.

To help researchers get their hands on this material as quickly as possible, we will be releasing the archive in phased batches, culminating in a festival to celebrate the Tavistock's work in Autumn 2017. Over the course of the next 18 months, the release of materials will be marked through a programme of dynamic, participatory, and artistic events and interventions, aimed at highlighting the diverse and exciting research possibilities of the collection, and exploring how the archive can be used in the 'here and now.'

March saw the launch of a <u>project blog</u>. We will be using this space to expose the inner workings of the cataloguing work, to shine a light on how the archive plays into an organisation's memory and future, and as a diary to document the project team's excitements, anticipations, frustrations and thoughts as we explore and interrogate the history of Tavistock.

In my role as TIHR Archivist, I've got hundreds of boxes to wade through, categorise, and interpret, but this is much more than just a cataloguing project. Tavistock Institute 2017 is a sociocultural curatorial project, an intervention designed to reflect the workings of the institute itself. As such, we are taking a new approach to the process of cataloguing itself, challenging ourselves to be more reflective in our thinking, and finding ways to be more creative and dynamic in our outreach and engagement activities.

Our overall ambition is to make this project a conversation between the past and present, creating a dialogue between the research community and project team. We invite you to join the conversation on the <u>blog</u>, follow the story on Twitter #archive2017, and tell us what you make of it all.

Author: Elena Carter is Tavistock Institute of Human Relations Archivist, based at the Wellcome Library.

# Full Michael Ashburner Archive Catalogued

Now available for research is the archive (Wellcome Library reference: <u>PP/MIA</u>) of Michael Ashburner (b. 1942), one of the key figures in the development of genomics and <u>bioinformatics</u> in the late twentieth century.

The Ashburner archive is the most comprehensive genomics archive held by Wellcome Library. It documents an entire career, from Ashburner's initial research after graduation



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from the University of Cambridge in 1964 to his later genome sequencing and bioinformatics work in the 1990s and 2000s.

Section A (<u>Laboratory work</u>) contains the main bulk of Ashburner's scientific papers. The 123 lab notebooks date from 1963 to 1996 and show the development of his research interests over the course of his career. There are also extensive research files that show Ashburner's interest in *Drosophila*. These document the various areas of research with which he engaged, including species crossing, polytene chromosome puffing, and the ADH (alcohol dehydrogenase) region. The work carried out by Ashburner and his laboratory to characterise the ADH region later proved to be invaluable for validating genome sequence annotation strategies.

In the late 1980s, Ashburner became involved in the European Drosophila Mapping Project, which aimed to produce a physical map of the *Drosophila melanogaster* genome. This then turned into the European Drosophila Genome Project (EDGP) after focus shifted from genome mapping to sequencing.

In 1998 the private company Celera Genomics joined forces with the <u>Berkeley Drosophila Genome Project</u> to sequence the *Drosophila melanogaster* genome in its entirety as a proof of concept before sequencing the human genome. The EDGP joined this collaboration and Ashburner was instrumental in organising a two week "jamboree" at Celera headquarters in November 1999 to annotate the genome sequence. The archive documents these developments, along with subsequent work and publications produced after the sequence was published in March 2000.

In the latter half of his career, Ashburner became increasingly interested in bioinformatics, a field concerned with developing software tools to aid understanding and interpretation of biological data. Section B of the archive (Bioinformatics work) documents Ashburner's work in this area. It includes papers regarding the development of FlyBase, an online *Drosophila melanogaster* bioinformatics database launched in 1992 which was co-founded by Ashburner.

Ashburner was a prolific networker, as can be seen from the extraordinary number of <u>conference and meeting papers</u> held in Section G. If a conference, seminar or workshop was held, there is a good chance Ashburner was present.

And he didn't limit himself to genetics and genomics meetings, but got involved in a broad range of conferences and advisory boards, including the International Centre of



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Insect Physiology and Ecology, the Public Library of Science, and computational biology workshops. Taken together, the papers in Section G are an excellent illustration of the scientific networks in existence in the late twentieth century, particularly during the 1990s (Ashburner's travelling peak).

Now that the full catalogue is available, researchers can browse all of it and get a sense of its scale. It provides one of the most comprehensive examples of a scientist's professional papers held by the Library, given that the records span Ashburner's entire career and document all aspects of his work. It should prove to be a gold mine for all sorts of research.

Author: Victoria Sloyan is Assistant Project Archivist at the Wellcome Library.

### To blog or not to blog...

The 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death was marked in many different forms at the end of April and the Wellcome Library joined the commemorations with a series of Shakespeare-themed posts on the Library's blog.



Dr Anna Maerker (King's College London) investigated the medical world of Shakespeare – including highlighting a deed from our collections with a direct connection to Shakespeare's family. Dr Daisy Garofalo from the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust examined the Bard's particular interest in twins whereas Katie Birkwood from the Royal College of Medicine asked if Dr John Dee provided an inspiration for the character of Prospero.

For regular updates on the work of the Wellcome Library, see our Blog (<a href="http://blog.wellcomelibrary.org/">http://blog.wellcomelibrary.org/</a>) or follow us on Twitter (<a href="http://twitter.com/wellcomelibrary">http://twitter.com/wellcomelibrary</a>)



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# NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY AND CENTER FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH, THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

### **Summer Programming**

### Lectures, Workshops, and Reading Groups

The Library is putting on several event series during the summer: a 4-part "Visualizing and Drawing Anatomy" workshop taught by Kriota Willberg in June; a reading and discussion group focused on health and social justice facilitated by Annie Robinson (starting June 27); and, partnering with the Museum of the City of New York, a 3-part series *Fast, Cool, Convenient: The Toxic Costs of New York Life,* which will examine the hidden environmental costs of life in the city in three areas: transportation (July 21: Sam Schwartz), air conditioning (August 11: Stan Cox), and plastic bags (September 15: Susan Freinkel).

Doctoral candidate Zachary Turpin of the University of Houston will present a talk "Up!: Manhood, Democratic Medicine, and Walt Whitman's Secret Health Writings" (July 18), on his discovery of a long-lost serial publication on diet, exercise and American health by the noted poet. The event is a collaboration with the New York Public Library, and will be hosted by Isaac Gewirtz, Curator of the NYPL Berg Collection on English and American Literature.

Our 2016 series "Changemakers: Activism and Advocacy for Health" started with writer and activist Alice Dreger (May 18) exploring the intersex patient rights movement which has been working for the past twenty-five years to stop pediatric genital surgeries that are motivated not by medical necessity but by social norms around sex and gender. Columbia University professor of sociomedical sciences Merlin Chowkwanyun (May 24) spoke about the Lincoln Collective and young doctors seeking to serve the most marginalized patients in 1970s New York City, with many former members of the collective present in the audience. The series continues with Judge Diane Keisel on "Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferebee: Civil Rights Pioneer" (September 13).

### Museum Mile

As in the past, the Library participated in New York City's Museum Mile Festival on Tuesday, June 14. Visitors had the opportunity to color printouts of collection images,

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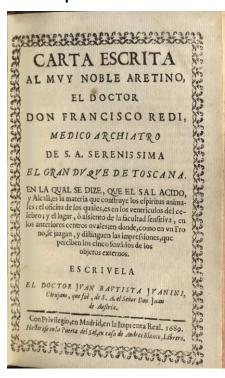
make their own "flap books" in imitation of the great anatomical flap books of the past, and do "fingerprint art."

### Atlas Obscura

The Library has three more events scheduled with Atlas Obscura this year. On July 7<sup>th</sup>, guest host Heidi Knoblauch delves into medical photography. On September 8<sup>th</sup> we will explore women's health and the changing attitude towards women's bodies over time. At the final session on November 11 we will be sharing some of the alchemical texts in our collections.

For these and other events, please see https://nyamcenterforhistory.org/calendar/

### **New Acquisition**



We've added a rare work on the nervous system to our holdings: Juan Bautista Juanini (1636-1691)'s Carta escrita al muy noble Aretino, el doctor Don Francisco Redi, medico archiatro de S.A. Serenissima el Gran Duque de Toscana, published in 1689. Born Giovanni Battista Giovannini in Milan, the author studied medicine and surgery at the University of Pavia before relocating to Madrid to be physician to Juan José of Austria, the scientific patron, military leader and son of Philip IV. The book includes details from the prince's own post-mortem examination, and has been called "one of the better of the anatomical books published in Spain in the seventeenth century" (Lopez Piñero). Juanini dedicates the work to the scientist and humanist Francesco Redi (1626–1698), who was an associate. The collection enhances our own extensive holdings related to Redi.

### **Research Fellowships**

Our 2016 Klemperer Fellow, Jaipreet Virdi-Dhesi, recently completed her month-long residency at the Academy. Jai's project, "Collegiality & Alliances: The Transforming Landscape of Otology and Hearing Loss, 1900-1950," explores the collaborations between American otologists and social workers and educators working in organizations that served the deaf and hard of hearing in the first half of the twentieth century. On May



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26, 2016, Jai spoke about the research she was able to complete using the Academy Library's collections.

Our 2016 Helfand Fellow, Daniel Goldberg, will be visiting the Academy Library later this summer to work on his project, "Truth, Doubt and Objectivity: Early X-ray Experimentation and Use in New York City."

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2017 Paul Klemperer Fellowship in the History of Medicine and Audrey and William H. Helfand Fellowship in the History of Medicine and Public Health. Information about the fellowship application process can be found on the Academy's website here: <a href="http://www.nyam.org/awards-grants/library-fellowships/">http://www.nyam.org/awards-grants/library-fellowships/</a>

### **Medical Student Notebooks Conserved**

With the support of a grant from the New York State Department of Education, the Library completed the conservation of thirty-one mid-18<sup>th</sup>- through early 20<sup>th</sup>- century medical student notebooks. This complements the work done last year on forty-two similar notebooks dating from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> through early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Digitization and Grey Literature**

Our mass digitization project to digitize the medical journals of state societies is progressing well. We have digitized almost 50% of our journals allocated for the project, which we are conducting as part of a 5-party team under the aegis of the Medical Heritage Library. Visitors can see the digital journals at the Academy Library's Internet Archive page: <a href="https://archive.org/details/nyamlibrary">https://archive.org/details/nyamlibrary</a>, or through MHL: <a href="http://www.medicalheritage.org/">https://www.medicalheritage.org/</a>.

The Academy Library is hosting the 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Grey Literature on November 28–29, 2016. The conference will be part of the first Grey Literature Week, which will also include professional development workshops on grey literature and Islandora, a digital collection repository that the Library has adopted as its platform.

Adam Matthew, a division of SAGE Publishing, recently released a new curated digital collection, the History of Mass Tourism: <a href="http://www.amdigital.co.uk/m-products/product/history-of-mass-tourism/">http://www.amdigital.co.uk/m-products/product/history-of-mass-tourism/</a>. The product includes a set of medical and health tourism pamphlets from our collections.



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### **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS**

# Annual Fellowship in the History of American Obstetrics and Gynecology

The annual History Fellowship at the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) has promoted women's health history since the program was founded 30 years ago. Since 1986, research projects have explored topics such as infertility in the 1920s-1940s; insulin and diabetes in reproduction; the history of adolescent gynecology in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; the evolution of cesarean section in the United States; and American medicine and the gendering of addiction, 1800-1920.

Although ACOG Fellows and Junior Fellows are encouraged to apply, the History Fellowship is open to *all* women's health history scholars. The annual \$5,000 fellowship award may be used by recipients to cover travel and living expenses in the Washington, D.C. area while completing their history research. Fellows are asked to spend the equivalent of one month (140 hours) in residence, which can be spread out over the course of the entire award year.

Although the fellowship is based in ACOG's Resource Center, Fellows are encouraged to use other national, historical, and medical collections in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area to supplement research done in the Resource Center and Special Collections. The National Archives, Library of Congress, and the National Library of Medicine are all within close proximity. The results of the research must be disseminated through either publication or presentation at a professional meeting.

The 2016 History Fellowship was awarded to Heather Dron, a public health history scholar, for her research project titled "Teratology Transformed: Obstetricians and Environmental Explanations of Congenital Malformation (1950-1975)." Ms. Dron, who resides in California, plans to fulfill her History Fellowship requirements in the fall of 2016.

For a listing of previous ACOG History Fellows, see <a href="http://www.acog.org/About-ACOG/ACOG-Departments/Resource-Center/History-Fellows">http://www.acog.org/About-ACOG/ACOG-Departments/Resource-Center/History-Fellows</a>.

The application deadline for the 2017 History Fellowship is November 1, 2016.



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

Beth DeFrancis Sun, Special Collections Librarian

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists 409 Twelfth Street, SW Washington DC 20024-2588

(202) 863-2578, (202) 484-1595 (fax)

Resources@acog.org

The application form and additional information is also posted on the College website at <a href="http://www.acog.org">http://www.acog.org</a>

### Mike Flannery to Retire July 1st

Effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2016, I'll be retiring from my current position as Assistant Dean for Special and Historical Collections at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. It's been a fantastic 17 years, and I will certainly miss my staff who has done so much to help make it so. That said, I plan to stay in Alabama and keep my membership with ALHHS active. So for all of my colleagues, this is more of a new chapter for me than it is a farewell. A national search will eventually be launched for my replacement, but in the interim my colleagues will continue to keep operations going: Stefanie Rookis at the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, Peggy Balch at the Reynolds-Finley Library, and Tim Pennycuff at UAB Archives. I plan to see everyone in Nashville next year!

### Mike Flannery

Asst. Dean for Special and Historical Collections University of Alabama at Birmingham

### The Mount Sinai Health System Consolidates Its Archival Collections

June 1<sup>st</sup> was a day to remember at the Mount Sinai Archives. A truck brought 32 moving boxes and three large cloth bins filled with historical material from St. Luke's Hospital (founded in 1850), the Woman's Hospital (founded in 1855 and folded into St. Luke's in 1952), and The Roosevelt Hospital (founded in 1864). These venerable New York medical institutions now form a part of the Mount Sinai Health System, which was created in 2013 after a merger between The Mount Sinai Hospital, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and Continuum Health Partners. Continuum was composed of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital, Beth Israel Hospital, Beth Israel Brooklyn Hospital, and the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, the oldest specialty hospital in the country founded in 1820.



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The St. Luke's-Roosevelt (SLR) collection had existed for many years and was managed by Nancy Panella, PhD, the former St. Luke's Librarian. Recent changes in the facilities there meant that the collection had lost its space and the decision was made to consolidate all of the Health System's historical collections at the Mount Sinai Archives.

The SLR collection consists of material dating from 1850 to 2012. There are patient case records from St. Luke's (1888-1907), Roosevelt (1871-1893), and the Woman's Hospital (1855-1871). The latter are of particular interest because the Woman's Hospital was founded by J. Marion Sims and these three volumes record Sims' and fellow surgeon Thomas Addis Emmet's cases. Each hospital record group also includes series of annual reports, governing board minutes, Medical Board minutes, publications, photographs, and assorted other material. There are also records of the St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing and its alumnae association, and a limited amount of records from the Roosevelt Hospital School of Nursing.

In addition to the SLR collection, the Mount Sinai Archives also has a collection of Beth Israel Hospital historical material that had been gathered by Beth Israel library staff over the years and was delivered to the Archives from storage in April 2015. The Beth Israel (BI) collection (1889-1998) consists of 42 boxes of material, composed of record series similar to those in the SLR collection, including extensive but incomplete collections of annual reports as well as Board of Trustees and Medical Board minutes. The medical records in this collection are limited to three volumes of patient registers (dated 1921-1933) belonging to the Jewish Maternity Hospital, which was established in 1906 and merged with Beth Israel's obstetrical service during the 1930s. Of particular note in the BI collection is a range of material (including clippings, press releases, reports and white papers) related to Beth Israel's Methadone Maintenance Treatment Program for heroin addicts, which began in the mid-1960s and was the largest of its kind for many years. These records may be useful to researchers studying the history of opioid addiction and treatment, still (sadly) a very relevant subject.

The consolidation of these collections at the Mount Sinai Archives has been exciting and vaguely overwhelming. We are fortunate that Mount Sinai St. Luke's and Mount Sinai West (formerly Roosevelt) Hospitals have agreed to continue funding an archivist's position. That archivist will be the point person for that collection and will work with us to ensure that the history of these important hospitals will be preserved and that their archival needs are supported.

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### **Barbara J. Niss**

Director, Archives & Records Management Icahn School of Medicine Mount Sinai Medical Center

# The Revive! Project: Crowdsourcing Transcription of the Waring Historical Library's Digital Collections



ABOUT THE PROJECT

Revivel was developed by the Waring Historical Library digital archives program and the MUSC Libraries Systems, In April 2015, the Waring became a recipient of the Express Library Digitatization Award of the Southeast/Allantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine(NN/LM). The funding was used to digitate 400 handwrite theses, pertaining to fevers, produced by artebellum students of the Medical College of South Carolina, latter merged with and named Medical College of the State of South Carolina, from the 1830s to 1860. The theses help to account for 1,585 inaugural thress in the holdings of the Waring Islancial Library.

The pages that you help us transcribe will be used to enrich the data describing our collections and to enhan searching our exisiting digital collections. Thank you for helping us Revivel our historical medical history

This summer, the Waring
Historical Library will launch
Revive!: The Waring
Historical Library
Transcription Project, an
online transcription portal
developed to crowdsource
the transcription of its digital
collections. Revive! will allow
the Waring's digital users to
edit and submit

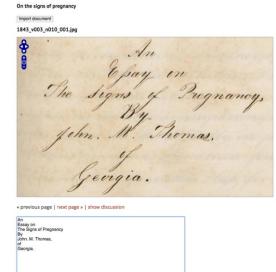
transcriptions of handwritten archival and manuscript materials accessible through the online module. This project will allow the Library to further enrich its digital collections, enabling full-text searchability, and increase user engagement with it and its materials.

Revive! will primarily feature more than half of the un-transcribed works of the digital collection, Waring Historical Library Inaugural Theses. In 2015, the Waring received an Express Digitization Award from the Southeast/Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN\LM). The funding was used to digitize nearly 400 handwritten theses, which were produced by students of the Medical College of South Carolina between 1830 and 1860. While the Waring has received other NN/LM Express Digitization Awards, this cycle was different because the Library decided to explore crowdsourcing as a means to transcribe the digitized theses. By adding the crowdsourcing feature the Library eliminated costs dedicated to outsourcing transcription, while still ensuring full-text searchability of the collection over time. The Waring also anticipates that this project feature will allow the library to engage with its users in different ways.

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The online module was developed utilizing Omeka, the open source content management system created by the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media (CHNM) of George Mason University, and modeled after the transcription project designs of the University of Iowa Libraries and the Virginia Memory efforts of the Library of Virginia, DIY History and Making History – Transcribe, respectively. The Waring started its development of *Revive!* in early 2016, installing Omeka, MediaWiki – the open source application used to maintain Wikipedia – and Scripto, an Omeka plugin developed by



CHNM which employs MediaWiki to enable user input and to allow users to obtain personal accounts in order to maintain progress and contributions to the project. The user interface of *Revive!* was adapted using an open source theme, originally designed by Emedara Design Studio. Registered users will be able to submit and edit transcriptions for digitized materials uploaded to *Revive!*, and completed transcriptions will be added to the Waring's digital collections allowing users full-text searching of the manuscripts.

Development of *Revive!* was not without its challenges. During the installation and configuration of the online portal, the library's web developer determined possible security issues, which included the potential for users to upload malicious content due to user access to account registration and privileges that accompanied the enablement of user input within the MediaWiki application. Because the Waring is a part of a medical university and hospital, these concerns were of heightened significance. It was determined that a security review would be required after the development of the transcription portal to identify vulnerabilities and to determine proper security settings for the project and online users without administrative privileges.

As the number of *Revive!'s* users and their contributions increase, the Waring will make other collections available for transcription. The Library is excited about the potential for user engagement that this project brings and digital projects it might support. *Revive!* demonstrates the ways in which the Waring works to strengthen its relationship with its



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community of digital users. For more information about *Revive!* and the digital collections of the Waring, please contact Digital Archivist, Tabitha Samuel at <a href="mailto:samuel@musc.edu">samuel@musc.edu</a>.

#### **Tabitha Samuel**

Waring Historical Library

Medical University of South Carolina

### Medical Heritage Library Update

The Medical Heritage Library is pleased to announce that over 1,500 state medical society journals digitized as part of its NEH and Arcadia-funded *Medicine at Ground Level: State Medical Societies' Journals and the Development of American Medicine* initiative are now available online

(https://archive.org/details/statemedicalsocietyjournals). The collection includes volumes dating from 1899 to 2000 and thus far includes the states of Arizona (with digitized volumes currently ranging from 1912-2000), Delaware (1911-2000), Oklahoma (1908-2000), and Tennessee (1908-2000), all of which serve as sites not only for scientific articles, but for medical talks, local news regarding sites of medical care and the medical profession, advertisements, and unexpurgated musings on medicine and society throughout the 20th century.

In addition to searching for the journals via the Internet Archive, full-text searching is available using the MHL's advanced search tool

(<a href="http://test.mhl.countway.harvard.edu/search/">http://test.mhl.countway.harvard.edu/search/</a>). Texts may also be explored using Bookworm (<a href="http://mhlbookworm.ngrok.io">http://mhlbookworm.ngrok.io</a>), a search and visualization tool that allows users to graph and compare word occurrences in the full text and catalog records of all MHL items within a user-defined period of time.

Journals are being digitized by five MHL collaborators: The College of Physicians of Philadelphia; the Countway Library of Medicine at Harvard University; the Center for the History of Medicine and Public Health at The New York Academy of Medicine; the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, University of Maryland, the Founding Campus (UMB); and the Library and Center for Knowledge Management at the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF). When digitization is complete in Spring 2017, the collection will include 117 titles dating from 1899 to 2000, comprising 2,500,369 pages in 3,579 volumes.



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For more information, contact MHL coordinator Hanna Clutterbuck-Cook (<a href="mailto:hanna-clutterbuck@hms.harvard.edu">hanna-clutterbuck@hms.harvard.edu</a>) or visit us at <a href="https://www.medicalheritage.org">www.medicalheritage.org</a>.

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### **BOOK REVIEWS**

Phoebe Ann Pollitt. *African American and Cherokee Nurses in Appalachia: A History, 1900-1965.* Contributions to Southern Appalachian Studies, 37. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2016. 220 pgs. Paperback, \$35. ISBN 978-0-7864-7965

Pollitt, an associate professor of nursing at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, has practiced nursing in Appalachia for over 30 years. Her interest in and professional research into health disparities have resulted in this in-depth examination of the challenging and prejudicial environments for female nurse wannabes from African American and Eastern Band Cherokees, that characterized the first half of the American 20th century. Pollitt paints an accurate, yet disturbing picture that these women (as well as black physicians) faced, in seeking acceptance in nursing programs, or in establishing treatment facilities in Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, the Qualla Boundary (a land trust where the federally recognized Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians reside in western North Carolina), Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. Also discussed are the policies of the military nursing corps regarding blacks as well as those of the American Red Cross in the early part of the 20th century. Though similarly stigmatized, Cherokee nurses faced less discrimination in academe and the workplace from 1900 - 1965.

Obstacles were many for aspiring nurses of color or Cherokee heritage in the period. With interviews and research in census data, newspapers, and organizational house organs, Pollitt has chronicled the struggle for acceptance and recognition for those aspirants who held their heads high and persevered. Working in medically underserved areas of rural Appalachia, and treating the occupationally acquired diseases of African American coal miners who lived in company towns on miniscule wages, these nurses had their work cut out for them. Often, young black or Cherokee nursing students were exploited by nursing programs: long hours, poor or no compensation (although some tuition or schooling costs might be covered), substandard housing, etc. African American students/nurses, were often relegated to work in inferior segregated wings



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(often in damp, dreary basements) of the white hospitals which offered token care to African American citizens. A repeated, and now unthinkable, practice among many white hospitals was to deny medical care to any African American, regardless of station and regardless of the severity of medical need. More than one account is given of black doctors being denied access to local white hospital operating rooms, forcing their patient to travel over a hundred miles to a care facility which would treat African Americans.

The Great Depression exacerbated conditions in Appalachia, already economically disadvantaged in contrast to the rest of the country. Job loss and deeper poverty ensued for many less-educated Appalachian minorities. Public health nursing programs, where many African American and Cherokee nurses found employment, cast them into important roles of teaching hygiene, nutrition, baby care, first aid, and other basics to marginalized segments of society. National Negro Health Week was championed by religious and community leaders; contests for cleaning up yards, collecting trash, etc., were held, as were sermons advocating health, sanitation, insect control, and tuberculosis. Various other grass roots campaigns, usually in larger cities, made for self-help efforts at local levels. Yet these struggles made only a dent in the actual medical needs of minority Appalachians. Cherokee tribes, with long-held customs and religious beliefs, were respected by Cherokee nurses who worked in public health capacities.

Many efforts to establish dedicated small clinics or hospitals to treat blacks were made, often underwritten initially by a black physician. Donations of medical supplies or outdated equipment might be provided by regional white hospitals, but by and large these groups were pretty much on their own. Some black patients chose to stay in their homes and did not seek medical care. When they did, if surgery was required, it was often performed by a black physician on the kitchen table, and post-op care done at home. Numerous small black clinics/hospitals eventually closed; even though the beds were filled, patients were unable to pay for services.

Nursing schools for African Americans came and went: increasing accreditation requirements were a major factor in their demise, as were the financial burdens on the students. Early nursing schools for black aspirants were often hundreds of miles away, further hindering young aspirants from realizing their dreams. With the advent of World War II and the need for skilled nursing care both abroad and at home, African American and Cherokee nurses found growing professional and employment opportunities. These nurses served patients of all colors and in all sorts of settings.

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Pollitt provides a comprehensive list of African American nursing schools. Each state is looked at in particular as to its black population concentrations and its nursing efforts for rural citizens (the Kentucky Frontier Nursing Service is especially notable, it serving both blacks and whites).

With little or no acceptance by established (white) professional nursing societies, African American nurses began their own nursing societies, gaining visibility and increased influence on state levels. African American nurses and doctors were non-adversarial in pursuing recognition, funding, and support. On occasion, white women's civic organizations lent limited support.

The book is sprinkled with key legislation over the years that played into the desegregation picture. Most Appalachian states did little to embrace these laws, and it is mainly due to federal desegregation legislation and Medicare/Medicaid policies in the 1960's that compelled white hospitals to implement desegregation relative to African American nurse employment and patient acceptance.

As a teenager in the 1960's, I was well aware of the civil rights movement, thanks to media coverage at the time. Yet, I read Pollitt's book with much sadness regarding the at-large medical community's stance on desegregation at that period. Organizations which many of us perceive today as being charitable, caring, Christian, and extolling all manner of good, were far, far different a few decades ago. It seems a much more shameful time than I imagined.

### Sharon Lee Butcher, MLS, MSO

sbutchermls@gmil.com

Harold Y. Vanderpool. *Palliative Care: The 400-Year Quest for a Good Death.* Jefferson: N.C.: McFarland & Co., Inc. 280 p. Paperback, \$39.95. ISBN: 978-0786497997.

Harold Vanderpool's *Palliative Care: The 400-Year Quest for A Good Death* is an excellent introductory survey of the history of palliative care and treatment in the West.

The author, who has himself been involved as a physician in palliative care debates in the U.S., divides his text chronologically starting in seventeenth century England. He makes extensive use of primary source documents, drawing particularly heavily, of course, on the writings of those involved in the palliative care discussion over the



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centuries, including Francis Bacon (1561-1626), John Gregory (1724-1773), Benjamin Rush (1746-1813), and William Munk (1816-1898). He has also spent a great deal of time combing the periodical literature including medical journals of all kinds. The bibliography will be a treasure trove for anyone interested in pursuing the subject. However, the reader might be forgiven for expecting more of an argument than Vanderpool makes; this is most definitely a survey text outlining a topic rather than the working out of an original thesis.

Each chapter is outlined at the beginning and concluded at the end with a neat summary, beginning in chapter one with the creation of the concept of palliative care and ending nine chapters later with the current debates over not only palliative medicine but hospice care and euthanasia. Vanderpool focuses each chapter around a theme and then divides his examination into two or three personalities or key ideas, using them as anchors for his chapter.

He is particularly strong on modern medicine, using the last half of the book to focus on developments in the United States during the twentieth century. He spends less time on the history of palliative medicine before the late nineteenth century, but provides a bibliography which makes a very good guide for further reading in the earlier period. Readers will benefit from the fact that many of these earlier texts are freely available online for download or browsing from sites like the Internet Archive, Project Gutenberg, and HathiTrust.

The book is largely concerned with developments in palliative care in the United States and England and gradually narrows to just the United States. This makes sense given Vanderpool's own work in the field, but does raise questions about the history of palliative medicine elsewhere in the world as it fails to place Anglo-America in a global context. Vanderpool also draws a sharp distinction between palliative medicine and the "dying with dignity" movement. Palliative medicine, in his construction, is concerned with easing the process of an inevitable death, not with choosing a specific moment in the process of a disease for a patient to end his or her life. Some may find this a semantic distinction without a great deal of difference since, at least in the U.S., the political and medical debates around palliative care often implicate both. Both scholars and lay readers interested in a general introduction to the history of the topic will find this a most helpful volume.

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Richard Adler and Elise Mara. *Typhoid Fever: A History.* Jefferson, N.C: McFarland and Company, Inc., 2016. 219 p. \$35.00. ISBN: 978-0-7864-9781-2

Typhoid fever plagued humanity for thousands of years. Historians of most every stripe, especially those of medicine, the military, and urban history encounter the disease throughout their work, the frequency with which it emerges as a killer of armies and children alike a measure of its pervasiveness. Though a ubiquitous part of the human experience for thousands of years, typhoid has generally received only passing attention by historians, its ravages explicated in general mortality rates among soldiers on the march and urban outbreaks. Adler and Mara's work breaks this pattern and places typhoid fever – its casualties and the scientists who slowly unraveled its etiology, prevention, and cure – at the center of the narrative.

Roughly chronological, *Typhoid Fever: A History* is in some ways a collection of vignettes, the earliest of which examined its probable role in the fifth century B.C. Plague of Athens (ironic that one of the most common gastrointestinal disease was responsible for the epidemic rather than smallpox, Hantavirus, or Ebola - all of which scholars have advanced as possible causes) and the death of Alexander the Great. The authors' examination of ancient incidences of typhoid fever is followed by essays on the causative pathogen, the advances against the disease in the eighteenth through twentieth centuries, and an exploration of the possible deaths of American presidents and European nobility from the disease.

The authors' use of brief chapters and the explication of personal accounts of the disease tend to draw the reader into the narrative; one feels at times as if one is reading a *National Geographic* article rather than a scholarly history of a devastating disease. Indeed, it is this style of writing that makes the work approachable for undergraduate readers and the informed general audience. The scholar will benefit from a single volume history of typhoid, most especially Adler and Mara's exhaustive presentation of the medical theorists and formally-trained scientists who defeated the disease.

A final and important point offered by Adler and Mara is the course of the assault on typhoid at the turn of the twentieth century by civil engineers and scientists. Though clean municipal water supplies were of overwhelming importance in the fight against typhoid, it remained a significant disease in rural areas and among militaries on the march. Typhoid antitoxin did not offer the simple solution that one might think, as different formulations offered varying degrees of protection. As a consequence, the



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authors stress a multifaceted model of typhoid control that combined dedicated engineering/public health efforts, effective testing of suspected victims and carriers, antitoxins and palliative care, and education of the public about the disease's most likely routes of transmission. Importantly, as with most diseases, the authors take care to remind those in the industrialized world that thousands still die in the developing world from a disease eliminated a century ago from the tables of mortality in the United States. The reminder is timely and crucial in a world in which clean water supplies continue to be threatened by climate change-driven natural disasters (Hurricane Katrina is a fine example), as well as by an aging American infrastructure (Flint Michigan and the 1993 Milwaukee water contamination disaster) that requires maintenance and even replacement.

### **James Higgens**

W. Douglas Fisher and Joann H. Buckley. *African American Doctors of World War I:* The Lives of 104 Volunteers. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co., Inc., 2016. 284 p. Paperback, \$45.00. ISBN: 978-1-4766-6315-9

African American Doctors of World War I began as brief biographies published in Traces, the quarterly magazine of the Indiana Historical Society. The men profiled all volunteered to serve in the 92<sup>nd</sup> and 93<sup>rd</sup> divisions of General Pershing's American Expeditionary Force. After months of searching, their names and basic information (hometowns, birth and death dates, medical schools attended and graduation years) had been found, in a crumbling unlabeled folder at the National Archives. Then, the authors spent five years unearthing as much biographical information as they could, and were able to interview relatives of most of the men. All entries include information about each physician's roots, military service, and postwar career, closing with references. The authors included as many images of the 104 men as were available, but also a number of stock photos, such as a temporary field hospital.

Though a statistical summary was not included, it's apparent that of the 104, a few were graduates of state medical schools but most were alumni of Howard, Meharry, and medical schools that were closed after the publication of Abraham Flexner's 1910 *Medical Education in the United States and Canada*; most lived long lives, had families, and many became leaders at their hospitals, while also working for civil rights at local, state and national levels. Their places of birth were geographically diverse, from New Hampshire to Ohio to Texas, Kentucky, Georgia and Virginia.



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Several men stand out immediately: Thomas Edward Jones (1880-1958), a 1912 graduate of Howard; Charles Herbert Garvin (1890-1968), a 1915 graduate of Howard; and Louis Tompkins Wright (1891-1952), a 1915 graduate of Harvard. Jones was a battalion surgeon. He was awarded a Distinguished Service Cross and the French Croix de Guerre and was "promoted to captain for attending the wounded in an open area while under machine gun fire." (p. 125). After the war, he rose to the post of surgeon-inchief at Freedmen's Hospital in Washington, D.C. Garvin, a frequent contributor to the *Journal of the National Medical Association*, had apparently been mentored by George W. Crile (who went on to co-found the Cleveland Clinic.) In his postwar career, Garvin with his family pioneered integrated housing in Cleveland, and was "one of Cleveland's preeminent physicians" (p. 88). Wright, the subject of several journal articles as well as the 2008 biography *Mr. Harlem Hospital* by Robert C. Hayden, was the son and stepson of physicians. In his postwar career he was, in the words of the authors, a "man of 'firsts'" (p. 260) and his career reached its apex when he became director of New York City's Harlem Hospital. All three men had interned at Freedmen's Hospital.

One of the few who did not survive the war was Urbane Francis Bass (1880-1918), a 1906 graduate of Leonard Medical School. A few weeks before the end of the war, he was hit with shrapnel while treating wounded soldiers at "a forward aid station under heavy German fire." (p. 29). Another man, Vanderbilt Brown (1886-1921) survived the war, only to die of a gunshot wound at his home in Charleston, West Virginia. The circumstances surrounding his death were never learned. He had received his medical degree from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Boston in 1912. That institution, which closed in 1948, is misidentified (probably in the original document) as the Boston College of Physicians and Surgeons.

As America's participation in World War I is being commemorated over the next few years, it is important to have such works as *African American Doctors of World War I* – which is well-researched, but not a scholarly work – to serve as the basis for more indepth study.

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### **CORRECTION**

The book review of *Dogged Persistence: Harrington, Post-Polio Scoliosis, and the Origin of Spine Instrumentation*, by Marc A. Asher, published in the Spring 2016, issue of *The Watermark* contained an error made during the editorial process.

The correct publication information is Chandler Lake Books, Traverse City, MI.

We apologize for this lapse.

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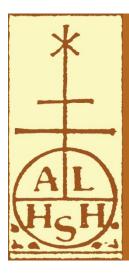


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