

ISSN 1553-7641

THE WATERMARK

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

Volume XL

Number 3

Summer 2017



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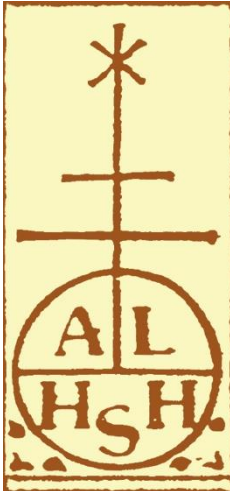
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**Submissions for the Watermark:**

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: Photograph from the World War I album of Dr. George Outerbridge. Courtesy the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. See article on p. 38.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE



I wasn't able to attend this year's annual meeting in Nashville due to work commitments, but the minutes published here give me some idea of how productive and convivial it was. Both the annual meeting and the news of members published here show what a vital and lively profession we are. And the book reviews, as always, demonstrate the intellectual vigor of the history of medicine profession both in North America and in Europe.

Thanks again to all of you who contributed to this issue – with such prolific writers my job is made easy!

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer.

Stephen E. Novak

Editor, *The Watermark*

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Here in North Carolina, summer has arrived. The humidity is high, and the cicadas are loud. I find myself busy with visiting researchers, just as I'm sure many of you are.

Amongst the business of your summer, I hope you find time to read through this issue of *The Watermark*. If you were unable to attend our fantastic annual meeting in Nashville, you will find the minutes from our Business Meeting and committee reports below.

For our new and newish ALHHS members: I urge you to consider volunteering for a committee. This is a great way to learn more about the organization as well as meet others. And if you are a veteran ALHHS member and it has been a while

since you've served on a committee, please let me or any of the other officers know about your interest.

Russell Johnson, chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for 2018, is already gearing up and beginning to plan for our meeting next year in sunny L.A. I feel like next May is far away, and yet it will be here before we know it.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful and relaxing summer.

Rachel Ingold

ALHHS President

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2017 ALHHS ANNUAL MEETING, NASHVILLE TN, MAY 4

Annual Business Meeting Minutes, May 4, 2017, 12:30 pm
Nashville Public Library

Adoption of Agenda: Rachel Ingold

Adoption of 2016 Business Meeting Minutes: Rachel Ingold for Dawne Lucas

Travel Scholarship Report: Susan Hoffius

The Joan Echtenkamp Klein Travel Scholarship was set up at the 2016 business meeting by a vote of membership. The scholarship is for students and early professionals in the history of the health sciences. This is the first year it has been awarded. Hoffius thanked committee members Jack Eckert and Jennifer Nieves. There were two applicants, and two award recipients. Both award recipients deserved the award.

The award winners were Gabrielle Barr and Jamie Rees.

Hoffius encouraged members to encourage other people to apply for the scholarship.

President's Report: Rachel Ingold

Ingold reported that the state of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of Health Sciences is quite good. Our finances are sound, membership is solid, and interest is high.

This organization thrives on its members who contribute in numerous ways. These contributions include articles in *The Watermark*, presentations at our annual meetings, and those who serve on committees and other positions. Ingold thanked everyone who participates and volunteers his or her time. We are a resource not only of camaraderie but also of great expertise and skill, and are eager to share and assist others.

The past year has seen several new changes. This year marks the implementation of the Joan Echtenkamp Klein Travel Scholarship award. Named in honor of long-time ALHHS member and mentor Joan E. Klein, this award offers two conference travel stipends to ALHHS or MeMA members who are students or professionals who have worked in the history of the health sciences for fewer than five years. Each award is for \$500. Our 2017 Nashville meeting includes our first two recipients of this award. The Steering Committee agreed to make a \$500 donation to the UVA Health Foundation in memory of Joan Echtenkamp Klein. Treasurer Barbara Niss sent a check in this amount, which will be reflected in next year's treasurer's report.

Last year's Steering Committee meeting included discussion on the need for a social media coordinator/liaison. In July 2016, the Steering Committee selected Gabrielle Barr to be our social media coordinator, which currently entails managing the ALHHS Facebook page and Twitter account. Members have been asked to provide contributions that are in turn posted by Gabrielle. I strongly encourage members to provide content for our social media presence. Secretary Dawne Lucas also created a generic gmail account for the organization.

I want to thank everyone again for their time, especially those members who have served on committees and as committee chairs and those in other leadership roles. I do want to particularly thank Chris Ryland for chairing the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2017 meeting. I also want to thank and acknowledge those members who are stepping down from ALHHS positions: Maija Anderson and Polina Ilieva as Members-at-Large; Barbara Niss as Treasurer; and Russell Johnson as Chair of the Website Committee.

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Niss

Niss reported that we are making money, which will now be spent on the new scholarships. She thanked the organization's pro bono CPA. She will send all of the treasurer's files to the new treasurer, Phoebe Evans Letocha, once all business from this meeting is wrapped up. We have four advertisers in *The Watermark*.

Membership Report: Barbara Niss and Dawne Lucas

Niss said that with 139 current members, our membership is strong. We have 23 new members. The membership numbers look like they are down, but they really are not. People often don't remember to renew, or they thought they renewed and didn't. Lucas will follow up with people who didn't respond after the meeting.

Lucas said that an updated membership directory was sent out in December 2016, with a revision was sent out in February 2017. Additional revisions will appear in the next update that will go out later this year.

Social Media Report: Gabrielle Barr

Barr has tried to use both Facebook and Twitter as means to broadcast medical history and archives-related materials, be it an event at an ALHHS member's institution, or an interesting article, podcast, or video. She has reached out to non-members, who have liked the Facebook page. She has also tried to get members and non-members involved by submitting content. She has only had limited success in this regard. This may be in part because people have to send pieces to her to post in order to be seen widely. The visitor posts are a bit more hidden. For next year, she hopes members can become more active to make the page more dynamic and more like a conversation amongst those in the field rather than a digital bulletin board. She thinks there needs to be a discussion of what purposes we want social media to serve and how to go about it – whether that means guidelines, a roster where people sign up to post, etc. She is looking forward to suggestions.

**Program Committee Report: Tim Pennycuff**

Pennycuff thanked Chris Ryland for the contact to the keynote speaker, who has worked at Meharry Medical College for about 40 years.

The Program Committee consisted of Brooke Fox (Medical University of South Carolina), Michelle Marcella (Massachusetts General Hospital Russell Museum), John Schleicher (University of Nebraska Medical

Center), and Tim Pennycuff, Chair (University of Alabama at Birmingham). Michelle was the MeMA representative to the committee. Local Arrangements Committee chair Christopher Ryland graciously provided assistance.

We received a total of 12 discrete proposals, nine of which we were able to accommodate given the slightly reduced amount of time available for the program this year. The program includes two 5-minute lightning talks, six 15-minute presentations, and one 50-minute panel presentation. Henry Atwater of Nashville's Meharry Medical College is the keynote speaker.



*Keynote Speaker Henry A. Atwater II,
Program Coordinator, Office of Student
Life at Meharry Medical College*

**Local Arrangements Committee Report:
Christopher Ryland**

This year's Local Arrangements Committee members are: Christopher Ryland, (Vanderbilt Eskind Biomedical Library, chair), Jim Thweatt (Vanderbilt Eskind Biomedical Library), Stefanie Rookis (University of Alabama, Birmingham) and Elisabeth Brander (Washington University in St. Louis).

Christopher Ryland, Jim Thweatt, and Stefanie Rookis were the initial members of the group, and Elisabeth Brander joined in the late summer of 2016. The first discussion was about the location of the meeting. The group considered Vanderbilt University, which has facilities large enough for the group, as does the Scarritt Bennett Center nearby. Because of Nashville's lack of public transportation options, and the distance from the Sheraton Hotel to Vanderbilt, the LAC investigated the option of hiring motor coaches to

ferry visitors from downtown to Vanderbilt and back. Stefanie Rookis solicited several quotes from transportation companies, but the prices were unrealistically high.

The group then investigated the Nashville Public Library's conference room and auditorium. Because of the nature of the meeting, NPL was happy to waive all fees. The only problem with this location is that the building does not open until 9:00, which meant the meeting would start later than normal. This meant that breakfast was also a problem. After discussions back and forth with the Program Committee, it was eventually decided that the auditorium was the best choice for the meeting itself, and that the conference room would be used for registration, breakfast, and lunch. Christopher coordinated the AV needs with the program committee, and communicated those to NPL meeting staff.

In October, the LAC tentatively planned having a group breakfast at the Sheraton and then walking over to the library for the meeting, but eventually it was decided that the cost would have been extremely high. The LAC then coordinated with Tim Pennycuff of the Program Committee to push back the start of the meeting to accommodate having breakfast from 9:00 to 9:30 in the NPL conference room. As the Provence restaurant has a location in the library building, the LAC selected them to provide breakfast and lunch.

In November, the LAC began investigating options for the Wednesday night dinner. Each committee member brought suggestions to the table, ranging from fancy (Capitol Grille) to budget (BB King's Blues Club). Committee members solicited menus and prices from each restaurant, and the group narrowed down the list to a few midrange restaurants. The LAC then coordinated with other members of ALHHS leadership for approval of menu and location. Merchant's Restaurant was eventually chosen for its moderate price, location, and "historic" ambience. The restaurant was also able to accommodate a party of our size on that date.

The LAC also discussed repository tours. It was decided that Vanderbilt University's Special Collections and Eskind Biomedical Library Special Collections would be of interest to ALHHS members, and that the Tennessee State Library and Archives, as well as the Tennessee State Museum, would be obvious choices because of their location and general interest. In December, Christopher and Jim contacted staff at those repositories and arranged for Thursday afternoon tours. Vanderbilt was selected for the Wednesday afternoon tours.

In January, Christopher, Jim, Stefanie, and Elisabeth compiled information about the meeting and Nashville for publication in *The Watermark*. This included general plans for the meeting, information about local tourism and restaurants, and information about Nashville in general.

In February, Christopher contacted 2016 LAC chair Lois Hendrickson to learn more about the Google site that had been used for meeting registration. Lois provided access to the site and the registration form so that the format could be repurposed for 2017. Christopher also contacted webmaster Russell Johnson for the code that would allow PayPal payment online. The website went online in early March.

The Google form generated a spreadsheet with registration information, including lunch choices, dietary restrictions, and tour selection, among other choices. In total, 66 people registered for the meeting, and 64 registered for the Wednesday evening dinner. As in the previous year, this year's meeting registration was combined with MeMA, and 19 registrants indicated they were MeMA members. The form was shared with ALHHS treasurer Barbara Niss in order to facilitate meeting preparation. The website was published in early March.

In April, the LAC finalized dinner selections at Merchant's Restaurant, as well as breakfast and lunch choices from Provence. For breakfast, the LAC decided to order platters including a variety of pastries, fruit, and yogurt.

Prior to the meeting, Stefanie created nametags for all the registrants, as well as a few blank ones for late registration. Christopher made 72 folders for the meeting and included in them copies of the program as well as an area map, and a sheet with a few tourism links for quick reference. It was decided that the nametags would be handed out at the dinner, which would also facilitate quick registration Thursday morning. Jim ordered maps and other tourist information from Visit Music City to hand out at the registration desk, but those never arrived.

The cost of the dinner was \$51 per person, not including taxes and service fee, which for 60 people was estimated to be \$4232.34. The cost of breakfast and lunch will be \$1470.25. The cost of supplies, including nametags, labels, and printing, came to \$182.73. The cost for the meeting space itself was waived.

66 registered for meeting. 64 registered for the dinner.

Ryland thanked Jim Thweatt for joining him on the committee and for leading tours. He has a few suggestions for next year's Local Arrangements Committee, but overall thinks everything turned out really well.

Nominating Committee Report: Lisa Mix for Chris Lyons

We received 69 ballots. The slate was voted in overwhelmingly.

Details:

Melissa Grafe - President-Elect: 68 yes, 1 abstention.
Phoebe Evans Letocha - Treasurer: 67 yes, 2 abstentions.
John Schleicher - Member-at-Large: 67 yes, 2 abstentions.
Keith Mages - Member-at-Large: 67 yes, 2 abstentions.

Lyons would like to thank the co-members of the committee, Lisa Mix and Steve Novak, for putting the slate together, and to those who have agreed to serve our wonderful organization.



Publications Awards Committee Report: Emily Gustainis

This past fall, the Publication Awards Committee called for and received six nominations from the ALHHS membership for the annual Publication Award in the categories of monograph (one submission) and article (five submissions); no nominations were received for online resource.

This committee, which consisted of Emily R. Novak Gustainis (Chair), Phoebe Evans Letocha, and Lucy Waldrop, was grateful to have received nominations in two categories and, after extending the deadline to January 20, evaluated the submissions in February and March.

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

- Quality and style
- Contribution to the field

- Overall relevance to the profession

This year, nominated articles covered a wide variety of subject matter, including teaching with primary resources, a study of the impact of collaborative social media campaigns on special collections repositories, and surfacing the history of women in medicine to legitimize and advance the medical careers of new generations of women.

After a thoughtful review, the Committee selected Toby A. Appel's "Writing Women into Medical History in the 1930s: Kate Hurd-Mead and "Medical Women" of the Past and



Toby Appel receiving her award for best article from Emily Gustainis.

Present," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 88:3 (2014): 457-492, as the 2017 winner in the article category.

As the Committee received only one monograph nomination, it declined to award a winner.

Gustainis presented an award to Appel, who was in attendance.

Recognition Awards Committee Report – Anne Garner

Calls for nominations of candidates for both the Lisabeth M. Holloway Award and the Recognition of Merit were announced via the ALHHS listserv, *The Watermark*, and social

media platforms. The Recognition Awards Committee, comprised of Anne Garner, Polina Ilieva, Howard Rootenberg and Martha Stone reviewed applications this year for the Lisabeth M. Holloway Award for 2017 and chose Jodi Koste as our 2017 awardee. There were no submissions in 2017 for the Recognition of Merit.

The committee presented the Holloway Award to Koste at the Wednesday night dinner since she could not attend the ALHHS meeting due to her AAHM responsibilities.

***The Watermark* editor's Report: Rachel Ingold for Steve Novak**

Ingold said Novak is sorry he cannot be here due to an event in New York.

Publication: Since our last meeting in Minneapolis, four issues of *The Watermark* have been published electronically. Issues have ranged from 44 to 67 pages with an average of 54 pages per issue.

Personnel: Stephen Novak resumed the editorship after the previous editor, Martha Stone, stepped down. Although at first he insisted he would only be interim editor, he later decided not to resist fate.

Jenn Nelson, the first MeMA Notes Editor, stepped down at the end of 2016 and will be replaced by Tegan Kehoe starting with the summer 2017 issue. We are grateful to Jenn for shepherding this new feature so successfully.

Otherwise personnel remains the same: Jack Eckert, Associate Editor; Brooke Fox, Layout Editor; Pat Gallagher, Book Review Editor; and Jon Erlen, Associate Book Review Editor. Russell Johnson, as webmaster, has been responsible for the timely inclusion of each issue on the ALHHS website.

Lastly, though not “personnel,” it is ALHHS members who make *The Watermark* possible through their timely submission of articles.

Advertisers: The number of advertisers remains at four.

Website & Listserv Report: Russell Johnson

ALHHS listserv

- Johnson and ALHHS Treasurer Barbara Niss 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 8000 (compared to 4000 last year) spam subscription attempts were thwarted by the listserv firewall.
- Following the death of Cynthia Kahn, who had administered the listserv at George Washington University (then from afar in Florida), UCLA volunteered to host the list. With the approval of ALHHS then-President Stephen Greenberg, we worked with the IT people at GWU to break into the account and download the subscription list, then launched alhhs-l@lists.ucla.edu as a members-only list in

November 2010. Now, the list-running software, Mailman, is being decommissioned (“no longer supported”), so UCLA is turning to Google Groups. We will migrate the list to this new platform in May 2017.

- Attachments are sometimes stripped from messages and you might need to ask for them to be sent to you individually.

ALHHS website

- 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 but wasn't: load *The Watermark* issues into the *eScholarship* permanent online repository.
- The “HIPAA Resource Page” (http://www.alhhs.org/hipaa_sthc_alhhs.html), 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. Members pointed out that Phoebe Evans Letocha has this responsibility.



Russell Johnson receiving a Nashville mouse pad from Rachel Ingold.

- A reminder or nudge: The most recent edition of our “ALHHS Blue Book / Guidelines for the Annual Meeting” (<http://www.ishn.org/alhhs-bluebook-2008.pdf>) is June 2008.
- In consultation with ALHHS President Elaine Challacombe, UCLA's Kathy Donahue oversaw development and mounted our first website on 9 May 2000. The Website Committee first reported in *The Watermark* in the summer 2001 issue. The site moved to the Cold Fusion server at the UCLA Library several years later. Johnson assumed the administrative reins as Kathy retired in June 2008.

It's now time to upgrade the website's look and feel, on a new platform such as WordPress. During the

coming year Johnson will work with President Rachel Ingold and the steering committee to recruit a new website administrator and host from our membership.

Rachel Ingold made remarks about Russell and presented him with a superhero Pez dispenser and Nashville mouse pad.

Archives – Rachel Ingold for Jodi Koste

It was a quiet year for the ALHHS archives. A few electronic items were added to the cloud storage. No real reference requests or additional paper materials were received in the past year.

Old Business

None

New Business

1. Scott Grimwood asked why we require meeting attendees to be members and do not offer a non-member rate to attend the meeting. Perhaps ALHHS should explore offering a non-membership rate, which could be a \$15 fee to cover a year's membership. Several members, including Bruce Fye, Toby Appel, Lisa Mix, and Anne Garner spoke in favor of this idea.

2. Referring to the Treasurer's Report, Bruce Fye asked why so many more people registered for dinner this year as opposed to last year? Barbara Niss explained that the numbers look weird because the fiscal year ends March 31, so some people registered before the fiscal year ended and some people registered after the fiscal year ended.

3. Stephen Greenberg announced that he has a commitment to have a regular "History Matters" column in every issue of *JMLA* and is looking for content from members so he does not have to write them all himself. He will send more information after the meeting on the ALHHS listserv.

Adjournment: Ingold motioned to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by the membership. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawne Lucas

ALHHS Secretary

Wednesday's dinner at Merchant's Restaurant

Photo Credit: Stephen Greenberg



Annual Meeting

Photo Credit: Stephen Greenberg





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MEMA NOTES

Medical Museums Association Business Meeting Summary

May 4, 2017, Nashville Public Library

MeMA members were invited to attend the ALHHS meeting where their first order of business was the announcement of awardees sponsored by the ALHHS Joan Echtenkamp Klein Travel Scholarship Committee. The group applauded this new program, and we were able to see new MeMA member Jamie Rees (Museum Curator and Assistant Librarian of the Clendening History of Medicine Museum at University of Kansas Medical Center) receive one of two travel awards from ALHHS. Immediately following the Travel Scholarship announcements, our group departed to a nearby room for our annual business meeting that began at 12:45 pm. 13 MeMA members introduced themselves and shared news about their current projects. The following is directly reported in the meeting minutes.

Reports:

Meeting committee: Michelle Marcella was the MeMA representative on the Program Committee. Several members were concerned about the limited attention to museums in the meeting and as presenters. Michelle explained that the MeMA members who submitted program proposals were not chosen because they had presented at the last meeting. Stefanie Rookis was the MeMA representative on the Local Arrangements Committee but she was unable to attend.

Conference Travel Scholarship: This year ALHHS offered two awards and kindly allowed MeMA members to apply also. There were just two applicants, one of whom was Jamie Rees, a MeMA member. Although funds had been set aside for MeMA's named travel scholarships in 2008, MeMA had not been successful in gaining interest in them at that time. This year ALHHS also had a limited number of applicants (2 for 2 awards). Efforts to coordinate with ALHHS on this travel scholarship program are expected to continue, fostering cooperation and efficient use of funds, although it is still to be decided whether a MeMA named scholarship will be revived for 2018. The contact for this project is Sarah Alger.

MeMA Notes: O'Dell reported that Jenn Nelson retired at the end of 2016. Tegan Kehoe (Exhibit & Education Specialist at the Russell Museum of Medical History & Innovation) has volunteered to fill the role beginning with the summer issue.

Secretary/Treasurer:

**Jamie Rees. Photo by
Cassie Nespor**

Cassie Nespor reported that there are 9 new members this year. We have 41 total members representing 32 institutions in 4 countries. All members are current on their dues. Half of the members used PayPal this year. The membership form was available as a Google Form, but only 5 people used it. Cassie requested a review or audit of the finances as a precaution. The group agreed a non-officer should fill this role. Alan Hawk agreed to look over the bank statements once a year before the annual meeting. No official audit is necessary for organizations under \$5000. We should spend some money this year to stay under that cap. Balance in the Fifth Third account as of March 31, 2017 is \$4,405.23. The PayPal account balance is \$356.26.

Website: Dominic Hall continues to maintain the website but was unable to attend the meeting. It was noted that the website listing of members will need to be updated with the new members.

Election of Vice-President:

Shannon called for nominations, but there were none. Stefanie Rookis had agreed to accept the nomination if no others were made. She will serve a term from 2017-2019. Shannon also welcomed Sarah Alger into the President's position.

Bylaws change:

The bylaws change was discussed. The motion was made to adopt the changes, seconded, and passed. The Secretary/Treasurer's term is now 3 years instead of 2. Cassie Nespor will serve in the position from 2016-2019.

New Business:

2018 Annual Meeting: The meeting next year will be held at UCLA and we discussed who might represent MeMA on the Local Arrangements Committee. Currently, the only member in California is Bob LaPerriere, who works at the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society Museum of Medical History. Sarah agreed to contact him to see if he'd be interested in serving on the Local Arrangements Committee. Others noted that we need to encourage new members from that area. As part of the goal to expend MeMA funds in the coming year, a few ideas were mentioned. We proposed that MeMA cover the cost of transportation for a museum tour site at the UCLA meeting. Lisa O'Sullivan

suggested a tour and possibly a presentation from Howard Rootenberg at the Museum of Jurassic Technology. Also, members requested that presentations by MeMA members be video recorded and made available to members who could not attend the meeting.

European Association of Medical Museums: Jim Edmonson reported the European Association is reforming and is now based in the Netherlands, not France. Their meeting this year is in Barcelona. Jim highly recommended it. Since many members will not be likely to attend, it was suggested that we invite a speaker from their meeting to our meeting in 2019 (which will be in Columbus, OH).

Shannon O'Dell, President and Cassie Nespor, Secretary-Treasurer

Snapshots from the 2017 ALHHS/MeMA Meeting in Nashville



MeMA officers, from left: new president Sarah Alger, secretary-treasurer Cassie Nespor and outgoing president Shannon O'Dell.



MeMA members ready for their tour of the Tennessee State Museum.



MeMA members on a tour of the Tennessee State Museum. Photo: Cassie Nespor.

Reflecting on my last year as President of MeMA

Over the past year I have had the pleasure of working with Cassie Nespor, the Secretary-Treasurer and with Sarah Alger, Vice President 2015-2017. Most of the work was managed through email. Others pitched in to represent the MeMA perspective during the Program (Michelle Marcella) and Local Arrangements (Stefanie Rookis) committees as well as a new travel scholarship committee (Sarah and Jennifer Nieves) for the Nashville annual meeting. Last spring, during an in-between-editors period, members sent Cassie and me stories and images for our *MeMA Notes* column for the ALHHS spring 2017 *Watermark* newsletter. This year too, I was delighted when the members approved changes in the MeMA by-laws to adjust the term for the Secretary-Treasurer from a 2-year term to a 3-year term and additional text to include respective areas of responsibilities for each office. The increase to the 3-year term for Secretary-Treasurer is important since it is quite an undertaking to change “authorized” officers on the MeMA checking account more frequently than 3 years. We’ve been able to maintain our bank account with the same bank system since the Medical Museums Association was founded in 1986.



MeMA members Shannon O'Dell, Cassie Nespor and Jennifer Nieves at the Wednesday ALHHS/MeMA Nashville Meeting Dinner, May 3, 2017

I feel very proud to have led MeMA through a growth period. With the help of Cassie Nespor, who has been very conscientious about tracking new and returning members' information and dues, we can report a trend of increasing membership from 26 paid members (2015) to 30 paid members (2016) to 41 members (2017). That is a 36% increase from 2016 to 2017! Attendance at the MeMA meeting has been nearly the same from 2016 to 2017. A few of our MeMA members are actively involved as officers or in committees of ALHHS and have to choose between our meeting or ALHHS since they occur at the same time of day. Eventually, I hope this circumstance will be resolved so the schedule conflict disappears.

It has been a wonderful two years as president of MeMA and I was delighted to pass the torch to our new President, Sarah Alger at the conclusion of the 2017 Nashville meeting.

Shannon O'Dell

President of MeMA (2015-2017)

Curator & Director, Sindecuse Museum of Dentistry

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

President's Note

If, like me, you visited the impressive Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum while you were in Nashville, you might have caught footage of country comedian Minnie Pearl and her famous lines: "How-dee! I'm just proud to be here!"

It occurred to me, as I stood in the busy gallery watching that clip, that this is how I feel about assuming the presidency of MeMA: proud to be here, and a little bit of a hayseed in such distinguished company.

When I attended my first MeMA meeting three years ago, in New Haven, it became quickly apparent what a spirited, diverse, tightly knit group this is. With the help of Shannon O'Dell and previous past president Dominic Hall, I've come to appreciate the organization's history, and thanks to my service on the program committee for the Minneapolis meeting, I experienced MeMA/ALHHS collaboration firsthand. However, there is much still for me to learn from your deep knowledge of the organization.

I look forward to working with vice president Stefanie Rookis and secretary-treasurer Cassie Nespor, and to getting to know you all better. You'll hear from us through our

email list posing questions about how MeMA can best serve you, but in the meantime, please don't hesitate to get in touch with questions, suggestions or concerns. It's a privilege to serve this organization.

Sarah Alger

President of MeMA (2017-2019)

Director, Paul S. Russell Museum of Medical History and Innovation

Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

Commemorating WWI at Massachusetts General Hospital



The first installation of the WWI exhibit, with the busy hospital hall reflected in the glass.

Photo: Russell Museum.

From 1917 to 1919, Massachusetts General Hospital operated a wartime base hospital just south of Bordeaux, France, caring for injured and sick Allied troops in the second half of WWI. Over 500 MGH employees served as doctors, surgeons, and nurses in WWI, half of them at Base Hospital No. 6.

The Russell Museum at MGH is presenting a series of eight mini-exhibits on different topics relating to the war, throughout the two-year centennial of U.S. involvement. These exhibits are in the “distributed museum” case in the main lobby of MGH and include small artifacts and archival materials. In addition, the museum is developing an exhibit of

wartime artifacts that belonged to a nurse and a video about MGH's involvement in WWI, and is hosting several lectures related to WWI. We are working with Digital Commonwealth, a collaborative organization in Massachusetts, to put some related archival materials online.

Themes of the exhibit include the war as an early example of MGH's role in disaster medicine and global health, and pioneering work in medical records and epidemiology as examples of evidence-based practice. The exhibit also describes daily life at Base Hospital No. 6, the role of nursing in the war, and the range of medical specialties, some of which were less than a generation old, put to use in the war.

Tegan Kehoe

Exhibit and Education Specialist

Paul S. Russell Museum of Medical History and Innovation

Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

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MEMBER PROFILES



Name: Gabrielle Barr

Member of ALHHS since: I became a member of ALHHS in 2013.

Hometown: Virginia Beach, VA

Current Employer and Position: From March 2016 to June 2017, I processed the New York Academy of Medicine

International Theses Collection as the Historical Collections Project Archivist at the Health Sciences Library at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. This year I am excited to be part of the 2017-2018 cohort of the National Library of Medicine Associate Fellowship program where I look forward to being engaged in a variety of initiatives as well as expanding my skill set through conferences, seminars, and other professional activities.

Education: As an undergraduate, I attended the Johns Hopkins University where I majored in history and minored in French cultural studies and museums and society. I earned my MIS at University of Michigan where I specialized in archives and records management while completing a graduate certificate in Science, Technology, and Society.

Professional interests: Along with processing and cataloging medical history collections, I enjoy finding innovative ways to share these resources with the public. These pursuits have spurred my interest in the way American law impacts medical librarianship in terms of copyright restrictions and HIPAA and FERPA regulations. Since graduate school, I have also become intrigued by the potential of digital humanities in meeting the needs of 21st century patrons as well as web archiving.

Other facts, interests, or hobbies: Currently I act as the editor of SAA's Science, Technology, and Health Care Section's newsletter, *Archival Elements*, am in charge of posting content on social media for ALHHS, and will be serving on the membership committee for AAHM. In addition to my professional responsibilities, I enjoy conducting my own research on 19th century British medical history topics, visiting museums, reading historical fiction, cooking, and watching movies.



Name: Susan Hoffius

Member of ALHHS since: 2005, I think

Hometown: Copake, NY

Current Employer and Position: Medical University of South Carolina. I'm the Curator of the Waring Historical Library and an Associate Professor in the Department of Library Science and Informatics.

Education: Bachelors in Classics (Greek and Latin languages) from Smith College and Masters in Science (Library and Information Science) from Simmons College.

Professional interests: Wearing many hats, juggling chainsaws, etc. Honestly, though, my professional interests are tied up with whatever project I'm working on at any given

time. Right now I'm renovating our dental museum, managing the redesign of our website, finishing up our strategic planning project, and advancing our development efforts. If I had all the time in the world (which I don't), I'd spend more time training budding archivists and librarians.

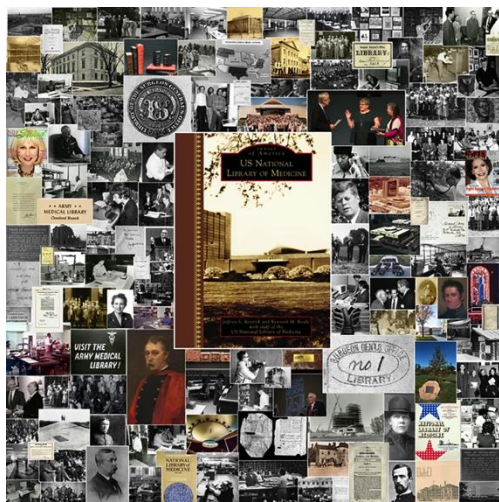
Other facts, interests, or hobbies: Fun facts: I am a big fan of naps. I have a Darwinian philosophy when it comes to my garden. I enjoy *South Park* more than I should. If I could only eat one fruit for the rest of my life it would be blueberries.

#oxfordcommasrule

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

Now Available: A New Illustrated History of the National Library of Medicine



The National Library of Medicine (NLM) is proud to announce the publication, on June 26, 2017, of a new, illustrated history of its development, from the early 19th century through the late 20th century.

Co-edited by Jeffrey S. Reznick, PhD, and Kenneth M. Koyle, chief and deputy chief respectively of the NLM History of Medicine Division, and made possible through the research, writing, and technical expertise of staff from across the Library, this new book entitled

U.S. National Library of Medicine, will appear in the popular series *Images of America*, by Arcadia Publishing. A hardback version of the book will be available from booksellers, and an electronic version of the complete book, including the 170+ black-and-white images which appear in it, will be freely available via NLM Digital Collections beginning June 26.

Many individuals have written about the National Library of Medicine and its origins as the Library of the Office of the U.S. Army Surgeon General. However, this book is unlike previous publications because it introduces the history of the Library primarily through

images from its own rich collections, along with a handful of other images from the collections of the National Archives, the National Museum of Health and Medicine, the Smithsonian Institution Archives, and the Rudolph Matas Library of the Health Sciences at Tulane University. The book reveals the work of generations of visionary leaders and dedicated individuals who experienced the American Civil War, the world wars, the Cold War, and the dawn of the Information Age.

“We hope readers will enjoy this broad history of the Library as much as we have enjoyed crafting it in cooperation with so many colleagues and friends,” said Reznick and Koyle in a joint statement about the project. They added, “We hope it will inspire readers to learn more about the development of the Library and the many people who contributed to it, and to learn more about our institution as it exists today and serves the world from its home on the campus of the NIH (National Institutes of Health). We envision this publication as a companion to *Hidden Treasure: The National Library of Medicine*, produced by NLM in 2011, further inspiring readers to explore the Library’s programs and resources, to visit for a tour, and to conduct research in its world-renowned collections which span ten centuries and represent nearly every part of the globe.”

Landstuhl Regional Medical Center to Coordinate Tour of NLM Traveling Exhibitions: NLM Traveling Banner Exhibitions Will Tour U.S. Military Bases in Germany from 2017 to 2021

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) signed a memorandum of understanding with the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC), a U.S. Army hospital in Landstuhl, Germany, according to which the LRMC will showcase 12 NLM traveling banner exhibitions in its library and coordinate a tour of the exhibitions to U.S. military bases and libraries throughout Germany. This new relationship enables

the NLM to expand its traveling exhibition services globally, bring NLM resources to new audiences, and support military personnel and their families abroad. NLM exhibitions will travel to U.S. military bases and libraries in the region from 2017 until 2021. Please visit the [NLM Exhibition Program website](#) for itinerary information.



NLM Welcomes Applications to Its Michael E. DeBakey Fellowship in the History of Medicine for 2018

NLM is pleased to announce its second annual call for applications to its Michael E. DeBakey Fellowship in the History of Medicine.

The NLM Michael E. DeBakey Fellowship in the History of Medicine supports individuals in pursuing research in NLM's Michael E. DeBakey archives, related collections held by the NLM, and the vast range of subjects which informed, or were informed by, Michael E. DeBakey's professional career – from surgery to health care policy, medical libraries and expanding access to medical information, medical technology to medical ethics, military medicine to veteran health, humanitarianism to international diplomacy in the medical arena.

In early 2016, the National Library of Medicine announced its receipt of a generous gift from The DeBakey Medical Foundation to support enhanced access to the Michael E. DeBakey Archives at the NLM and to establish the NLM Michael E. DeBakey Fellowship in the History of Medicine. With this support, the NLM launched the first call for applications to the fellowship in April 2016 and subsequently named its 2017 DeBakey Fellows, who are now actively working on their research projects involving the NLM's Michael E. DeBakey archives and related collections.

NLM and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) continue their partnership to administer the NLM Michael E. DeBakey Fellowship in the History of Medicine, and they now invite applications from anyone over the age of eighteen, of any academic discipline and status. Non-U.S. citizens may apply.

Fellowships of up to \$10,000 will be awarded to individual applicants, not to institutions, to help offset the costs associated with visiting and using the NLM collections, but may not be used for institutional costs or overhead (e.g. clerical costs, supplies, or other attendant project expenses).

To learn about the requirements for the NLM Michael E. DeBakey Fellowship in the History of Medicine, please visit this website.

To apply for the NLM Michael E. DeBakey Fellowship in the History of Medicine, visit this online application portal which is maintained by FAES in cooperation with the NLM.

To receive consideration, all materials must be submitted to FAES, via the above online application portal, by midnight EDT, September 30, 2017. Awards will be announced by the end of the calendar year.

Michael E. DeBakey (1908–2008) was a legendary American surgeon, educator, and medical statesman. During a career spanning 75 years, his work transformed cardiovascular surgery, raised medical education standards, and informed national health care policy. He pioneered dozens of operative procedures such as aneurysm repair, coronary bypass, and endarterectomy, which routinely save thousands of lives each year; he also performed some of the first heart transplants. His inventions included the roller pump (a key component of heart-lung machines) as well as artificial hearts and ventricular assist pumps. He was a driving force in building Houston's Baylor University College of Medicine into a premier medical center, where he trained several generations of top surgeons from all over the world.

The [Michael E. DeBakey archives](#) collection at the National Library of Medicine includes material from the early 1900s to 2009 and contains correspondence, administrative records, diaries, transcripts, publications, speeches, conference and awards material, subject files, photographs, and audiovisual media. The collection reflects the vast expanse of Dr. DeBakey's life, achievements, and interests.

For further information about the materials available for historical research at the National Library of Medicine, please visit <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/index.html>, or contact the NLM's History of Medicine reference desk by email at [NLM Customer Support](#) or by phone 301-402-8878. Questions about the NLM Michael E. DeBakey Fellowship in the History of Medicine may be directed to these same points of contact.

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NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME LIBRARY

Opening up the Wellcome Trust Corporate Archive

For the first time researchers can request and view material from the Wellcome Trust's own **corporate archive**. This is the result of a two-year project to turn Wellcome's corporate records into a public resource available to all.

The archive is being catalogued in five sections and the first two, Governance and Corporate Management and Grant Funding, are now available on the Wellcome Library

catalogue. Some individual files and record series are closed due to the personal data and business sensitive information they contain, but all the open and restricted records can be viewed in the Library.

The Governance and Corporate Management section ([WT/A](#)) covers the high-level managerial records produced by the Wellcome Trust since its inception in 1936. Several files document the work that went into establishing the Trust after Sir Henry Wellcome's death and reveal the efforts the Trustees had to go to wind up Sir Henry's affairs and deal with his bequests. This section also includes all the Board of Governors (originally Board of Trustees) minutes and papers up to 2013. They chart the Trust's growth from a charity struggling under the weight of Sir Henry Wellcome's estate duty to one of the world's largest medical research charities funding research into human and animal health.

The Grant Funding section ([WT/C](#)) covers the Trust's many and varied funding activities. This includes all the various funding panels and committees there have been over the years, management of specific grants and major funding projects such as the Sanger Institute and Diamond Light Source and work looking at the Trust's funding strategies and research into possible new areas of funding. The section also includes grant outputs from various funding streams, primarily relating to public engagement. These outputs range from artworks to educational resources to theatre productions.

The archive has already revealed a few surprising things. For instance, most people are aware of the Wellcome Foundation share sales in the 1980s, but the records show that a share sale was actually first considered in the early 1960s ([WT/A/5/1](#)), though on that occasion it didn't go ahead.

Cataloguing the next section is well under way, and it will be released later this year. It covers Wellcome's direct activities--the things the Trust does itself rather than funds. This includes Wellcome Collection, the policy team and the Trust's involvement in science education.

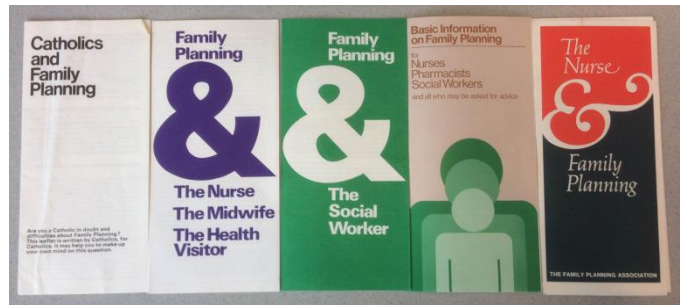
Victoria Sloyan is an archivist at the Wellcome Library

FPA: New sources for the history of sexual health

The **FPA** is a UK charity which provides information and education so that people can make informed decisions about their own reproductive and sexual health.

The **archive of the FPA** and predecessor organisations (covering the years 1907-2013) is held at the Wellcome Library and is one of our most popular collections with researchers.

In its earliest days, the FPA fought to combat the stigma around contraception and to make trustworthy, affordable contraceptives available to everyone. The sale of contraceptives had never in fact been illegal in the UK (as was the case in the US and Ireland) but was limited to those with the knowledge and money to go about procuring them.



Marie Stopes opened her first clinic in 1921, through which she hoped to take the distribution of contraceptives away from the hands of unscrupulous merchants and to provide information and reliable products. But it was not until 1967 that the UK government passed the National Health Service (Family Planning) Act, which enabled local health authorities in England and Wales to give contraceptive advice, supplies and appliances freely on the NHS.

While this was essentially the fulfilment of the FPA's aim, it was left in an unusual position. The earlier segments of the FPA archive focus on campaigning and the fight to make contraception respectable and widely available. After 1967 we see a shift towards education and the provision of information.

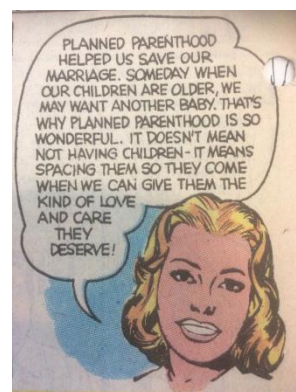
The latest accrual to the FPA archive, which has recently been catalogued, charts this transition. The papers of the Medical department (**SA/FPA/C/F**) show a preoccupation with ensuring that contraceptive products were 100% sound (and therefore suitable for consumers). This was achieved through stringent **testing** of the multitude of products which began to flood the market in the 1950s.

However, the transfer of the regulation of contraceptive products to UK government agencies in the 1970s meant that this function was rendered superfluous. They continued to publish the FPA's list of approved contraceptives through the Publications department (whose papers can be found at **SA/FPA/C/G**), and the Medical department ceased to exist.

The new focus of the FPA meant the Education and Information departments (**SA/FPA/C/D** and **SA/FPA/C/E** respectively) played a much more important role from the late 70s. The Education department provided training and consultancy in the form of courses and, working with the Publications department, produced an enormous number of leaflets, booklets and various other items that chart the changing attitudes to various methods of family planning.

They also produced audio-visual guides to sex education such as ‘**Danny’s Big Night**’ and ‘**Rhymes and Reasons**’, both of which are being digitised by the Wellcome Library and will be made available online in due course.

The Information department supplemented this activity by acting as quality control on the leaflets produced, but, as the name might suggest, its main role was the provision of accurate and unbiased information on family planning. This was achieved by means of an enquiry service and a library and information service.



In 2013, the FPA also donated its collection of **grey literature** from other organisations to the Wellcome Library. Now catalogued and available, this is a rich and diverse accumulation of approximately 650 leaflets, comics, booklets etc, many of which are unique or rare in the UK. Together they form a wide-ranging collection on many aspects of reproductive and sexual health covering the period 1969 to 2011.

Peter Judge was a Consultant Archivist at the Wellcome Library.

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

Ross MacFarlane

Research Engagement Officer

Wellcome Library

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

Programming for Summer

Our summer season began with over 140 in attendance for renowned science writer Mary Roach sharing her new book, *GRUNT: The Curious Science of Humans at War*, on June 12th. During the city's Museum Mile Festival on June 13th, The Academy attracted over 300 people during the festival with its Library collections-inspired family crafts. We also sponsored a sold-out walking tour of historical medical sites in Manhattan, presented by Dr. Bert Hansen, on June 17th.

We continue with special sessions with our rare book collections in partnership with Atlas Obscura: "Anatomical Illustrations" on July 21st, "Astronomy and Astrology" on August 16th, and "Cookery" on Sept. 15th.

In collaboration with The Museum of the City of New York, we present *Who Controls Women's Health?: A Century of Struggle*, a free, three-part talk series that examines key battles over women's ability to control their bodies, health choices, and fertility. The series is funded by a grant from Humanities New York. The talks are "Get Me Out: Childbirth in Early 20th-Century NYC" with journalist and author Randi Epstein MD on August 22nd; "On the Front Lines of Reproductive Rights" with Faye Wattleton, the first person of color to lead Planned Parenthood, on Sept. 13th; and "More than Medicine: Social Justice and Feminist Movements for Health" with Professor Jennifer Nelson of Redlands University on October 5th.

For details of these and other programs, see our [Summer/Fall Programming Brochure](#).

Rock Star Medical Librarians

Our own Curator, Anne Garner, was named a "Rock Star Medical Librarian" in the National Library of Medicine's *InFocus* series on shining lights of the profession. Here she shared what she considers the biggest misconception about her role: "That our collections are only of interest to doctors and other health professionals, and that I myself have an MD." <https://infocus.nlm.nih.gov/2017/05/23/rock-star-medical-librarians-this-weeks-opening-act/>

Kriota Willberg – Artist-in-Residence

Courtesy: Kriota Willberg

Starting April 3rd, artist Kriota Willberg became the Library's first Artist-in-Residence. Willberg is exploring the library's vast holdings in anatomy to research the history of stitches and ligatures—surgical techniques that bear relevance to art and craftsmanship. During the residency, she will share her progress with peers, students, and others through blog posts, social media, and presentations at professional meetings and conferences. At her residency's conclusion in September, she will mount a small exhibit and make a public presentation.

Through her comics, needlework, choreography and teaching (including anatomy, massage, and injury prevention), Willberg explores the intersections between body sciences and artistic practices. Her previous collaborations with the Academy include demonstrating anatomical drawing directly on a live model at the 2014 festival "Vesalius 500: Art, Anatomy and the Body" and in a popular 2016 workshop on visualizing and drawing anatomy. She repeated the workshop this May and in October will teach a needlework class called "Embroidering Medicine," combining elements of medical and feminist histories with hands-on embroidery techniques as a way to contextualize and experience contemporary craft practices

New Acquisitions

This spring we acquired an extremely rare first edition of *Il cioccolato* by Francesco Arisi (1657–1743). The work was published in Cremona by Pietro Ricchini in 1736.

This work on chocolate starts with a dithyrambic poem, telling how chocolate was born in America; mentioning chocolate's uses and effects on the body; describing the social life around drinking hot chocolate; and cautioning that chocolate shouldn't be overused in food. Dithyrambic poetry was often used to sing praises to Dionysus, the god of wine and fertility. In this case, wine has been replaced by chocolate.

The second half of the book provides Arisi's glosses on the poem, providing bibliographical citations and commentary on other authors who have written about chocolate, including various poets, doctors, and scientists. The University of Minnesota has the only other known copy in the United States.

Research Fellowship Program

Applications are currently being accepted for the Academy Library's two residential fellowships, the Paul Klemperer Fellowship in the History of Medicine and the Audrey and William H. Helfand Fellowship in the History of Medicine and Public Health. The deadline to apply for fellowships – which may be used any time during 2018 – is August 25th. More information and application forms can be found here:

<https://www.nyam.org/awards-grants/library-fellowships/>



Lauren MacIvor Thompson, the library's 2017 Klemperer fellow, recently spent a month exploring a variety of different items from the collections, including archival materials from the Academy's Committee on Public Health. In her June 8th public presentation, "A Responsible Body of Medical Men': The New York Academy of Medicine, Mary Ware Dennett, and the Clash over Birth Control," Thompson discussed the disagreement that unfolded

in 1920 and 1921 between Dennett, then the head of the Voluntary Parenthood League, and members of the Academy's Committee on Public Health, who had invited her to meet with them to discuss birth control and the Comstock Act. Even though Dennett agreed with the Academy's position that birth control should be distributed by physicians, the Committee members felt that her support for the legalization of birth control would undermine physician authority. The complicated story of their escalating disagreement and ultimate failure to come to any sort of compromise will be the focus of one of the central chapters of Thompson's first book, tentatively titled *Battle for Birth Control: Mary Dennett, Margaret Sanger, and the Rivalry that Shaped a Movement*.

Conservation Update: Summer Internship in Preventive Care

Chloe Williams joined the staff of the Gladys Brooks Book and Paper Conservation Laboratory on June 19th for a nine-week internship focused on preventive care. Her activities include assessing preservation needs, designing and constructing protective enclosures, managing programs for environmental monitoring and pest management, and engaging with curators and collection managers to ensure that collection priorities are being addressed. Chloe will work closely with Scott Devine, Head of Preservation, to participate in all aspects of preventive care for the Library's historical medical collections, developing a detailed understanding of how the various components of preventive care fit within a larger preservation program.



Webster Anatomical Doll, Female, 18.5cm.

Two major goals for the internship are designing an Integrated Pest Management Pilot Project and creating new enclosures for a rare collection of anatomical doctor dolls. The pest management project will consist of placing and monitoring insect traps throughout the building and working with facilities staff to address any problem areas. For the anatomical dolls, Chloe will

survey the condition of each item and design a custom box, padded with archival quality Volara® Foam, a thin closed cell polyethylene foam, for each doll.

Mass Digitization of Journals of State Medical Societies

The Academy Library's mass digitization of journals of state medical societies is complete and available to the public on the Internet Archive sites for the Academy Library (<https://archive.org/details/nyamlibrary>) and the Medical Heritage Library (<http://www.medicalheritage.org/>). More than 700 volumes were digitized by the Academy Library for this project.

Academy Library Digital Lab



The Academy Library has built an internal digitization lab to digitize rare and fragile materials. The lab uses a medium-format camera with a digital back mounted on a copy stand, strobe lights, color calibrated computer, and software for cultural heritage imaging. You can read more about the digital lab on the Library's blog in our blog post "[Let's Digitize! Building the Library's Digital](#)

[Lab](#)". For our pilot project, we digitized images for our new collection: [How to Pass Your O.W.L.s at Hogwarts: A Prep Course](#), which launched June 26th.

Digital Collections and Exhibits Website Launch

On June 5th, the Academy Library launched its new Digital Collections and Exhibits website

(<http://digitalcollections.nyam.org/>),

built on the open-source framework Islandora. Visitors to the website can explore the Library's rare books and manuscript collections, including

our [Apicius manuscript](#) with 500 Greek and Roman recipes from the 4th and 5th centuries, the [William H. Helfand](#)

[Collection of Pharmaceutical Trade Cards](#), beautiful anatomical images from [Andreas Vesalius's De Humani Corporis Fabrica](#), and many more. The Academy Library will continue to digitize and build new collections.



IslandoraCollections.jpg

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NEWS FROM THE HISTORICAL MEDICAL LIBRARY, COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA

New Digital Exhibition at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia Highlights World War I Physician's Scrapbook

To mark the 100th anniversary of the United States' entry into World War I, the Historical Medical Library (HML) of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia (CPP) presents *Travels with Outerbridge: A Fellow in the Great War*, a digital exhibition based on the scrapbook of Dr. George Outerbridge, a Fellow of the CPP who served from 1917-1919.

Outerbridge spent much of his time during the conflict stationed at Base Hospital No. 16 in Le Tréport, France, a British Expeditionary Force hospital. However, toward the end of his tenure with the unit, he joined Mobile Hospital Unit No. 8, which traveled through Normandy and Brittany, as well as near Verdun and the Argonne, the sites of important battles. While his photographs and letters document life on the medical base and the medical culture of the Allied Forces, they also depict a type of battlefield tourism that provides a somewhat jarring juxtaposition to life on base.

The George Outerbridge papers (MSS 2/138) consist of over seventy letters and postcards dating from August 1917 to July 1918. The collection also contains an album of 400 photographs – digitized in its entirety for this exhibit – that span Outerbridge's work with the Pennsylvania Hospital Unit through his discharge in April 1919. The collection was donated to the library in 1972 by Mrs. Edward F. Harvey, who discovered the collection after moving into Outerbridge's former home in Philadelphia.

To view the exhibit in our digital library: <http://bit.ly/outerbridge>

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHFM ANNOUNCES JOINT RECIPIENTS OF ANNUAL SANDRA L. PANTHER FELLOWSHIP IN THE HISTORY OF FAMILY MEDICINE



Amna Choudry, MD, MPH



Terrence Steyer, MD

The Center for the History of Family Medicine (CHFM) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2017 Sandra L. Panther Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine.

Amna Choudry, MD, MPH of Baltimore, MD, and Terrence Steyer, MD, of Charleston, SC have been named the joint recipients of the CHFM's Seventh Annual Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine.

Dr. Choudry is currently a third-year resident in the Family Medicine Residency Program at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore. Dr. Steyer is Chairman of the

Department of Family Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina and holds the Gregory-Chandler Endowed Chair in Family Medicine.

Dr. Choudry's project, "The Evolution of Rural Family medicine from origins to present, and future direction" for which she was awarded the 2017 Fellowship, is a study in the evolution of rural family medicine from its origins to present day. According to Dr. Choudry, "This project will provide insight into current problems in rural medicine and assess the difficulties and possible solutions to common problems in rural medicine. The culmination of this project will serve as an environmental scan and as a resource to provide guidance and valuable insight to future rural physicians."

Dr. Steyer's fellowship award was for his project entitled "Establishing an Academic Base for Family Medicine: The MUSC Story." This study, according to Dr. Steyer, seeks to accomplish three objectives: 1) "To describe the evolution of the department of family medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina from time of first proposal to establishment as department;" 2) "To use historical data to develop an understanding of the development of family medicine at academic medical centers, using MUSC as a case study" and 3) "To promote the continued need for academic departments of family medicine using a historical context."

Since two recipients were selected this year, the \$2,000 fellowship award will be split between them, with both receiving \$1,000 each for their fellowship projects. "The projects submitted by Drs. Choudry and Steyer were both outstanding, thus leading us to a joint award," said Dr. Tomás Owens, Convener of the CHFM's Board of Curators. "The board concluded that both concepts had great merit and the specialty of Family Medicine would benefit from their conclusion and publication."

The CHFM currently sponsors one \$2,000 Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine each year. Now renamed the Sandra L. Panther Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine in honor of former AAFP Foundation executive director Sandra L. "Sandy" Panther, interested family physicians, residents, students, other health professionals, historians, scholars, educators, scientists and others are invited to apply for the 2018 Fellowship.

The successful applicant will be awarded a fellowship grant in an amount of up to \$2,000 to support travel, lodging and incidental expenses relating to research on a project of their choosing dealing with any aspect of the history of General Practice, Family

Practice, or Family Medicine in the United States. The fellowship will be awarded directly to the individual applicant and not to the institution where he or she may be employed.

For more information, please visit the Center's website at:

<http://www.aafpfoundation.org/chfmfellowship>

Housed at AAFP headquarters and administered by the non-profit AAFP Foundation, the Center for the History of Family Medicine serves as the principal resource center for the collection, conservation, study, exhibition, and dissemination of materials relating to the evolving history of the specialty of Family Medicine in the United States. For more information on the Center, please contact Center staff via telephone at 1-800-274-2237 (ext. 4420 or 4422), via fax at (913) 906-6095, via e-mail at chfm@aafp.org, or visit our web site at: <http://www.aafpfoundation.org/chfm>.

The Dittrick Plans Fall Symposium on Technology in Museums and Education

The Dittrick staff reminds ALHHS and MeMA members (and their friends and colleagues) to register for the "Technology in Museums and Education" Symposium on October 13-14, 2017. This will mark the official Grand Opening of the *How Medicine Became Modern* digital exhibition wall, a touch-screen interactive, and will open with a lecture by Simon Chaplin, Director of Culture & Society at the Wellcome Trust. The Symposium will begin the following day, with morning talks dedicated to the use of digitization and interactives at the Dittrick Museum, as well as a presentation of Case Western Reserve University's HoloLens project and its impact on medical education. A catered lunch will be followed by an afternoon at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The Symposium will end with dinner for all registrants in the Powell Room of the Allen Memorial Medical Library. This event will be a great time to interact with colleagues in similar institutions that seek to put digital tech into practice, and also a chance to meet those who work in digital technology. We really hope you will join us! For more information, contact James Edmonson or Brandy Schillace; a schedule of events appears online—please try to register by July 31st. Limited tickets available.

<http://artsci.case.edu/dittrick/symposium/>

Brandy Schillace, PhD

Dittrick Medical History Center

The Mount Sinai Archives becomes The Arthur H. Aufses, Jr. MD Archives

The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai is very pleased to announce the naming of The Arthur H. Aufses, Jr. MD Archives in grateful recognition of the long-time support and dedication of Dr. Arthur Aufses and Mrs. Harriet Aufses. The Archives houses historical collections from the Icahn School of Medicine and the seven hospitals within the Mount Sinai Health System, with collections comprised of paper records, photographs, artifacts, memorabilia, and digital records—measuring 2,700 linear feet of history. The oldest records date to the 1840s and new electronic records are added every day. The hospitals represented in the collection are: The Mount Sinai Hospital, Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital, Mount Sinai St. Luke's Hospital (including the Woman's Hospital), Mount Sinai West (formerly the Roosevelt Hospital), Mount Sinai Queens, Mount Sinai Brooklyn, and the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai. For additional information about The Arthur H. Aufses, Jr. MD Archives, please contact the staff at msarchives@mssm.edu. The Aufses Archives are a part of the Academic Informatics and Technology area, which includes the Gustave L. and Janet W. Levy Library, the Instructional Technology Group, and Academic and Research IT Systems and Support.

US Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Office of Medical History Collection Reaches Milestone on Medical Heritage Library

In May, we uploaded our 5000th item - the *Hospital Corps Quarterly* from July 1918, which is full of training information for World War I at:
<https://archive.org/details/HospitalCorpsQuarterly6July1918>

We are continuing to scan and upload WWI publications, as well as putting up new Navy Medicine publications as we can find them, to prevent them from disappearing when a website is redesigned by a command as often happens. Complete runs of material such as *Navy Medicine Magazine* are already available. At the conclusion of a scanning project this summer, base newspapers from the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, and the Naval Hospital Oakland, CA will be added to the site.

Currently, we have over 528,000 views for a little over 5000 pieces, far outstripping any in-person use of the collection.

Michael Rhode

Archivist

US Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
Office of Medical History

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BOOK REVIEWS

Richard Adler. *Robert Koch and American Bacteriology*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 2016. v, 244 p. \$39.95. ISBN: 978-147662596

The effects of Robert Koch's insights on the course of medicine and the lives of literally billions of people cannot be easily overstated. Adler's work examines a far smaller group of people: Americans who either studied directly in Koch's laboratory, or studied closely with people trained by Koch.

The contextual framework of *Robert Koch and American Bacteriology*, namely that the germ theory of disease revolutionized how physicians understood and confronted infectious disease, is explained thoroughly, its ramifications woven throughout the text. A more important backdrop for Adler's narrative, and one which he again takes pains to explain, is the poor state of American medical training, research, and practice in the mid-to-late-nineteenth century relative to that of Western Europe.

The thesis of Adler's work is conventional; the work of Koch and other German scientists was absorbed by American students who studied in Germany and then disseminated it in American universities and throughout American medicine. To prove his argument, Adler devotes the bulk of his narrative to explicating the importance of Koch's discoveries and his role in training a generation of German scientists as bacteria hunters. Indeed, one gets the sense that there is a direct line between Koch and his colleagues and the virus hunters of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with regard to their field work against pathogens like Ebola, the Sin Nombre virus, and the Nipah virus.

The second half of *Robert Koch and American Bacteriology* describes the training American scientists received in Koch's laboratory. After a general review of the conditions and expectations students experienced in the Koch laboratory, Adler offers a series of seven vignettes of American students. The students Adler selected are among the most important in late-nineteenth century American medicine and include William Henry Welch, Victor Vaughan, and Lydia Rabinowitsch-Kempner. These students and

the others Adler covers are not only noted researchers in their own right, but went on to manage important laboratories and institutions in America, institutions that laid the foundation for a new American medicine that in a few decades not only equaled the work of European scientists, but largely eclipsed it by the Second World War.

Adler's work is an uncomplicated, straightforward read that offers his audience a series of chapter-length synopses rather than a work that builds to a final conclusion beyond the conventional suggestion that the influence Koch exercised on his American students was profoundly transformative for American science.

Perhaps the greatest weakness in Adler's work is directly related to an obscure, but important episode between Koch and an American scientist between 1889 and 1891. The American student was Dr. Samuel G. Dixon, founder of the University of Pennsylvania's hygiene laboratory, a lab Adler covers though his narrative omits Dixon. While in an English lab, Dixon discovered that tuberculosis bacteria may be attenuated via exposure to temperature differences and ultraviolet light. Furthermore, Dixon discovered that a preparation he created using weakened tuberculosis bacteria induced a degree of immunity in some animals into which he injected it. Dixon published his work in a minor medical journal in Philadelphia. Koch, meanwhile, also managed to attenuate the bacteria, developed his own serum, and announced his findings six months after Dixon. Koch's reputation was enough to secure, for a time, primary recognition for the discoveries for Koch and his colleagues. What followed was a series of meetings between Dixon and Koch and an acknowledgement that Dixon made both discoveries first. Another consequence that most students of medical history recognize was the tuberculin debacle that both killed patients and damaged Koch's reputation. The episode is one of the most fascinating in the history of the intersection of Koch and American medicine and would have balanced the often heroic portrayal of Koch which Adler presents.

Robert Koch and American Bacteriology is an excellent work for the reader interested in a basic recapitulation of Koch's influence on American medicine but its greatest weakness lies in ignoring the importance of English and French science in American medicine while, to a large extent, lionizing a single man.

James E. Higgins

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Edward C. Atwater. *Women Medical Doctors in the United States Before the Civil War: A Biographical Dictionary*. Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2016. xi, 387, [15] p., ports. Hardcover, \$39.95. ISBN: 978-1-58046-571-7

During the thirteen-year span (1849-1861) covered by this dictionary, at least 280 women received MD degrees from chartered medical schools in the United States. Professor Atwater created entries for 222 women -- many obscure and difficult to trace due to misspelling of names as well as changes of surname and residence. Sometimes he was able to construct only the briefest life narrative. At the end of each sketch, he cites the biographical references pertinent to that particular person.

The biographies are arranged alphabetically by surname (in all capitals) at the time of graduation from medical school. If the graduation name was a maiden surname, then it appears in italic capitals. The only exception is Elizabeth Blackwell, the first female recipient of an American medical degree, whose extensive biography precedes all others.

In his introductory essay Atwater examines the social and religious backgrounds of these women, their reasons for undertaking medical training, and the outcomes, successful or not. Economic reasons figured prominently. Many women were older with experience in other professions and were, or had been, involved in abolition, temperance, and suffrage movements. Almost 50% were married; some were widows with small children to support. They were not attempting to prove anything by seeking a medical degree, but were interested in teaching patients about their anatomy and physiology with the goal of preventing sickness. Atwater provides background information on medical training and practice during the period under examination and compares it to the 1970s when the numbers of women and their position within the profession began noticeably to change. Atwater urges other scholars to undertake more extensive research to fill in the biographical gaps and to mine the statistics for answers to the questions raised, such as why only 19 graduates had any documented Civil War service.

The volume concludes with five appendices, including a chronological list of graduates and schools they attended and a listing of principal locations in which the graduates served professionally; a bibliography; and an index of names. Every collection with a focus on medical history, American history, or women's studies would find this work an invaluable addition to its reference collection.

Suzanne Porter

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Adam Frattasio. *Steroid Man: Confessions of a Powerlifter from the Golden Age of Enhancement*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2016. vii, 185 p., ill. \$19.99. ISBN: 978-1-4766-6745-4

In 1980, a skinny 18-year-old named Adam Frattasio started taking anabolic steroids in order “to be so huge that people would stare...and be repulsed” (p. 92). They worked.

In *Steroid Man: Confessions of a Powerlifter from the Golden Age of Enhancement*, Frattasio documents his use of steroids such as Winstrol, Dianabol, Testosterone cypionate and Ethanate, Deca-Durabolin, Durabolin-50, Methandriol dipropionate, Equipoise, and Anadrol from 1980 to 1984. During this time, Frattasio gained 45 pounds, increased his bench press by 135 pounds, and increased his squat by 560 pounds. He was also a dealer until the government started cracking down on steroids in the late 1980s.

Frattasio provides insights into the world of powerlifting and bodybuilding that are not readily apparent to the uninitiated: the extreme diets, the rapid weight-loss or weight-gain before competitions, the iodine solution used to make bodies look tan, and the sheer amount of steroids injected and ingested. He describes his own obsession to grow larger as “Muscle Dysmorphia – the opposite of anorexia.” No matter how much weight and muscle he gained, he still thought he was too skinny (p. 39). Frattasio also describes many of the unfortunate side effects of steroid use, including the ones that contributed to his decision to stop using them.

Although *Steroid Man* will not win any awards for outstanding writing or copy editing, Frattasio proves that he is not a stereotypical meathead. He points out flawed findings published in leading medical journals and gives a passionate defense of steroid use even though he stopped using them more than 30 years ago. Frattasio strives to prove that there are more to steroids than what’s portrayed by the mainstream media. The book should be enlightening to anyone used to the usual mantra that anabolic steroids are bad – the end. It is interesting to read the other side of the story.

Dawne Lucas

Special Collections Librarian, Health Sciences Library
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

James G. Hanley. *Healthy Boundaries: Property, Law and Public Health in England and Wales, 1815-1872*. Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2016. 359 p. Hardcover, \$98.40. ISBN: 978-1580465564.

James Hanley, associate professor of history at the University of Winnipeg, has written a brilliantly detailed study of public health law and its implications in Britain in the first three quarters of the nineteenth century.

The introduction – which should be read in proper order! – lays out a concise history of the existing tradition of public health scholarship and the place of this book in it. Hanley positions his work as being in dialogue with the established field but also as correcting and extending conclusions he feels have been accepted among historians for too long.

The first chapter covers public health and nuisance laws in England and Wales before 1846. The remaining four chapters focus on the period after the passage of the New Poor Law (1834), Edwin Chadwick's 1834 and 1842 sanitary reports, and Henry Mayhew's journalism, collected and published in 1851 as *London Labour and the London Poor*. The second and third chapters take on specific issues: sewerage and the definition of the boundary between public land and private domain. The last two chapters, on London as a case study for public health law and the relationship between health law and domesticity, are particularly interesting reading.

Hanley does an excellent job of untangling Victorian perceptions of public and private space as well as the complex vision of what caused not only disease but also "nuisance": for example, was the cesspit in a private house's backyard a public nuisance, a consideration which often pre-dated public health concerns? The conflict between public rights and private nuisances made for difficulties when it came to applying a law which was meant to be uniform across an entire city, let alone one with sharply-demarcated and long-established districts of wealth and poverty. London-dwellers were not used to thinking in community terms and public health law forced them to do just that. The somewhat *ad hoc* nature of public health law in nineteenth-century London made this even more difficult, as did the somewhat patchwork method of information dissemination and legal enforcement of the laws which were on the books. In practice, the nascent public health system could be manipulated by powerful local interests, such as a landowner who wished to prevent the construction of a municipal sewer under his land.

A lengthy notes section, along with bibliography and index, will be of great use to scholars and students.

Given that Hanley's focus is on England and Wales – and mostly England, with a focus on London – it is to be hoped that other researchers will take up a similar approach to public health history for the rest of the British Isles.

Hanna Clutterbuck-Cook

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Kate Moore. *The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women*. Naperville, IL: Sourcebooks, 2017. 457 p. \$26.99 hardcover. ISBN: 978-1-4926-4935-9

In her book, *The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women*, Kate Moore, director of the 2015 London production of the Melanie Marnich play *These Shining Lives*, sets out to bring the story of the play's subjects, the radium dial painter factory workers, to life in print. She states early in her work that she is a storyteller and a non-academic and that her book is not intended to be academic in scope. She acknowledges that Claudia Clark, PhD, author of *Radium Girls: Women and Industrial Health Reform, 1910-1935* and Ross Mullner, PhD, MPH, in his work, *Deadly Glow: The Radium Dial Worker Tragedy*, have already completed successful academic endeavors on the topic.

Her book, however, isn't entirely historical fiction. Extensively researched and documented, the novel falls into a separate genre altogether between academic biography or historical work and historical fiction. One might call it a literary version of an historical docudrama. Seeing as it is based upon Moore's experience with her play, it is not surprising, then, that it has the goal of bringing the true story to light while being engaging enough to sustain and engross a general reader in the struggles of these pioneers of industrial worker safety reform.

The book details the well-publicized but also often forgotten plight of the women who used radium to paint characters and numbers on products in factories in New Jersey and Illinois. Taught the technique of "lip pointing," these teens and young women dipped their paint brushes repeatedly into their mouths to make a fine point to apply radium paint to watch and instrument dial faces to give them a glowing effect and make them easy to read in the dark. This was during a time where radium was seen as a wonder-filled product instead of a fear-inducing health hazard. Not only was the element used in

commercial products due to its illumination properties, but it was also used in both professional and home medical cures. In fact, products that did not even contain the element promoted themselves as having beneficial radium properties. Ironically, the workers were told that their work with radium would make them healthier and many even went so far as to paint it on themselves as a cosmetic and use it in their homes for decorative effect. This all changed, however, as the side effects of radium use became evident. The positive marketing and public opinion of radium also led to disbelief by people and aided in the denial by the factory that their production facilities had anything to do with the disintegrating teeth and jawbones, tumors, infertility, and multiple other deformities and disabilities the young women started experiencing just a few months or years into or after their radium dial factory employment.

Moore alternates most of the narrative in the book's 56 chapters between radium dial painting factories in Orange, New Jersey, and Ottawa, Illinois. She follows the lives of many of the individual radium painters' lives in striking detail from their first steps into the factories to their friendships, life events, and eventual illnesses and deaths. Also detailed are their struggles to seek justice and compensation from employers who had lied to them and hid evidence about just how dangerous their jobs were. Moore looks at the larger issues present in society and the United States government at the time, including the fact that the U.S. Labor Department and other state agencies and officials were largely set up to protect corporations from safety regulations and that the demand for jobs within communities took a front seat to concerns for working conditions, environmental concerns, and workers' health.

It is difficult to fully evaluate and trace the book's research from the advance reader copy that was provided for review. Certainly, the notes and bibliography sections are quite robust, with Moore taking full advantage of a wide variety of primary and secondary resources available to document the lives of the workers in detail. Yet, the text of the book is void of citations, making it impossible to tell when quotations are from actual evidence or from the author's imagination of what might have been felt or said in a particular circumstance. These conjectures make the book widely engaging and readable but do not make it suitable for serious academic research of the topic. The book also does not include a larger picture of the hazards of radium at locations beyond the New Jersey and Illinois factories. For example, similar worker concerns occurred at plants in Europe but these are not discussed or brought in for evaluation other than at the beginning to highlight differences in painting techniques amongst various factory workers. An interesting and notable section of the book includes an epilogue that details

and draws conclusion about the ongoing legislative and regulatory impact of the workers' experiences and the current and ongoing health and environmental concerns that are still being dealt with by the communities and residents surrounding the former locations of the radium painting factories.

The author's intended and acknowledged purpose of introducing a general readership to, "the compelling lives of the girls themselves" is quite successful. The book is best suited for the popular history section of the public library and the book club discussion market it targets. A book discussion guide is even located in the back matter of the book to encourage such use. Given its potential for widespread non-academic use, it is arguably important that this genre of well-researched but entertaining and accessible history-based works is available to engage a large readership. Their existence and popularity could perhaps lead a readership to draw their own conclusions and even draw present-day parallels to the peril of an era where profits and job growth were so prized and regulations were so lax that there was a blatant and purposeful disregard for the environment and worker welfare. One can hope that increased and widespread knowledge of such cases can support the unending struggle to not repeat the lapses in judgment of our past.

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Thuy L. Nguyen. *Childbirth, Maternity, and Medical Pluralism in French Colonial Vietnam, 1880-1945*. Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2016. 244 p. \$99.00 ISBN: 978-1-58046-568-7

Thuy L. Nguyen's review of childbirth and maternity in colonial Vietnam identifies the cultural complexities that occurred when French medicine met indigenous Vietnamese traditions. While acknowledging the asymmetries inherent in this relationship, Nguyen moves beyond a mere focus on their differences to examine how the exchanges between the groups influenced each other. She diligently follows the various shifts and concessions made through 65 years of history, resulting in a richly intertwined pluralistic system of maternal and infant care. Nguyen steps back from the standard criticisms and concepts of "medical imperialism" and "force of modernity" scholarship and seeks instead to provide a more intimate examination. Adhering to the tenets of medical pluralism, the author strives to remove herself from a narrow focus on resolving "good

and bad” and, in doing so, frees herself to explore more objectively the details, processes, and the intricacies of colonial-era healthcare.

The book begins with an introduction to the nineteenth-century outsider’s perceptions of Vietnamese childbirth. French doctors regarded customs such as the “lying-by-fire”—where a new mother would spend a month after labor in a darkened room with a charcoal burner under her bed—as barbaric. Doctors noted the numerous dangers of this practice and blamed folklore and irrational fear, but they did not acknowledge the possible benefits of heat therapy. After several descriptions of French interpretations of hygiene, diet, and other customs surrounding Vietnamese maternity, the book offers a timeline for the implementation of “medical birth” through the emergence of childbirth pluralism in the 1930s and 1940s.

The book moves on and examines the changing structure of maternity hospitals in Vietnam, where the European model was slowly adopted and adapted throughout the years in an attempt to bring in reluctant patients. At one point, a maternity hospital even permitted a modified version of the “lying-by-fire” custom. In the following chapters, Nguyen is careful to account for the many individuals involved in maternity and childbirth during this time, but the *bà mụ* (the traditional and rural midwives) and the certified Vietnamese midwives are ultimately revealed to be the dominant force in the lives of Vietnamese women. An entire chapter is devoted to these colonial-era midwives and their efforts, with some fascinating details and descriptions drawn from memoirs and personal records of the time. Another chapter examines how French authorities eventually admitted the much-disparaged *bà mụ* into the evolving healthcare system, using them, in particular, to reach the rural areas. The author offers a rich discussion about their recruitment and training, their problems and successes, and their significant role as the primary childbirth practitioner.

Nguyen has clearly done a tremendous amount of careful research and has gathered insights from a wide range of sources across multiple languages. Her vibrant and careful presentation of these materials makes for an easy read. Her writing style is elegant but concise in communicating an appropriate level of documented support for each revelation. She presents interesting notes and provides an exciting and well-informed list of archives in both Vietnam and France. While the images (both drawings and photographs) were well-placed, I was frustrated by the printing quality. I am not sure if this is true of all publications or only my copy, but they were rendered dark and flat, which made some images nearly indecipherable.

I enjoyed this book and particularly appreciated the attention to individual experiences and the use of primary sources I was not previously aware of. Nguyen's attention to the intimate details of women's lives was reminiscent of the style of Ellen Ross's *Love and Toil: Motherhood in Outcast London, 1870-1918*. However, additional recognition must be given to Nguyen for tackling the charged environment surrounding colonial scholarship, which results in an intelligent, contextual, and well-rounded exposition. *Childbirth, Maternity, and Medical Pluralism in French Colonial Vietnam 1880-1945* should be useful for a wide range of studies across many subject areas extending well beyond the history of childbirth and colonial medicine.

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Karen L. Walloch. *The Antivaccine Heresy: Jacobson v. Massachusetts and the Troubled History of Compulsory Vaccination in the United States*. Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2015. x, 339 p., ill. Hardcover \$125.00, eBook \$39.99. ISBN: 978-1-58046-537-3

Vaccination's triumphs are undeniable. In particular, the eradication of smallpox is among medicine and public health's greatest achievements. Yet ever since Jenner announced his discovery in 1798, there have been opponents of vaccination. Today's vaccine skeptics include celebrities, a [Cleveland Clinic](#) medical director, and both [President Trump](#) and [Robert F. Kennedy Jr.](#) Most of us in the health sciences regard antivaccinationists as misguided as believers in a flat earth. And yet, in *The Antivaccine Heresy*, Karen Walloch presents a compelling historical argument that over its first century, Americans had good reasons to question, fear, and resist vaccination. Her important scholarly work adds complications to a history that many of us take for granted.

Walloch's early chapters document the major practical problems vaccination suffered from throughout the 19th century. Vaccine materials were often suspect: lymph from both human and bovine sources could be weak or contaminated. (Sometimes the human source was old scabs mashed into paste.) Vaccine producers competed in a commercial marketplace, and both states and the federal government (until 1902) did little to inspect or license vaccine production. Unless making a fresh arm-to-arm transfer, physicians knew little about their vaccine material's source, purity, age, or proper storage. With

vaccination techniques seldom taught in medical schools, physicians used various methods to insert vaccine material into opened skin: cutting with a lancet, scratching with a needle or scarifier, or abrading with an ivory point. Without aseptic precautions and with impure material, vaccination could produce complications ranging from swollen arms, fever, and scarring, to tuberculosis, syphilis, tetanus, gangrene, and deadly sepsis. Documenting a world far removed from the safety and efficacy of modern injection, Walloch makes a convincing argument that turn-of-the-century Americans seeking to avoid vaccination were hardly just lunatics and cranks.

These early chapters provide the background for Walloch's main story: the 1901-03 smallpox epidemic in Boston and Cambridge, and how public health officials and antivaccinationists battled all the way to the United States Supreme Court's decision in *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, which upheld state authority to enforce compulsory vaccination. A key figure was Dr. Samuel Durgin, the longtime chairman of the Boston Board of Health, and a nationally prominent figure in public health. To fight the epidemic, Durgin favored vaccination over quarantine. He began an aggressive campaign of voluntary vaccination but later employed harsher methods including forcible vaccination. He also issued a challenge inviting antivaccinationists to test their beliefs by exposing themselves to smallpox. His challenge was accepted by "Dr." Immanuel Pfeiffer, who was also producing lively antivaccinationist literature. The unvaccinated Pfeiffer willingly visited Boston's smallpox hospital, and promptly contracted the disease. (He survived.) Walloch's chapter on Pfeiffer offers a thorough recounting of this strange and ethically complicated story.

Across the river in Cambridge, in the face of a persisting epidemic, health officer Dr. E. Edwin Spencer also eventually instituted compulsory vaccination. Some who resisted were brought into court and faced with a choice between vaccination or a five dollar fine. The resisters included Swedish Lutheran pastor Henning Jacobson, who became a test case supported by the Massachusetts Anti-Compulsory Vaccination Society (MACVS). Walloch provides a full account of the legal approach pursued by Jacobson, other resisters, and the MACVS. She also closely examines the 1905 United States Supreme Court decision authored by Justice John Marshall Harlan. In this case, the "Great Dissenter" did not dissent, and his approval of state police power in matters of public health was used in support of not only compulsory vaccination, but also state involuntary sterilization programs. Even though *Jacobson v. Massachusetts* is a cornerstone in public health history, law, and ethics, Walloch presents a far more detailed account than

is typically provided. Strikingly, she notes that Jacobson “probably never had to get vaccinated,” (p. 212) because by 1904 the vaccination order would have expired.

The physical book has some minor flaws. Its fine print (45 lines per 9-inch page) bothered my aging eyes. Though well illustrated throughout, an advertisement featuring a nicely described “beautiful full-color electro-tint engraving” (pp. 50-51) is unfortunately reproduced in black and white. As to the content, a back cover blurb rightly calls this book “staggeringly thorough.” There are 78 pages of endnotes for 220 pages of text, as well as appendices and a lengthy bibliography. However, the detail sometimes overwhelms the narrative, and a crisper book would have better served the author’s arguments and the reader’s attention.

Throughout *The Antivaccine Heresy*, Walloch takes the antivaccinationists seriously and considers their views sympathetically and respectfully. Future historians of vaccination should account for the issues she raises. In her concluding paragraphs, she speaks to present day concerns, arguing that the history she recounts “shows that labeling people who object to immunizations as stupid, ignorant, or crazy was, and is, a terrible mistake” (p. 220). But how (or indeed, whether) the concerns of antivaccinationists translate from the early to the late 20th century, and to the present day, is work still to be done.

Bob Vietrogoski

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

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