

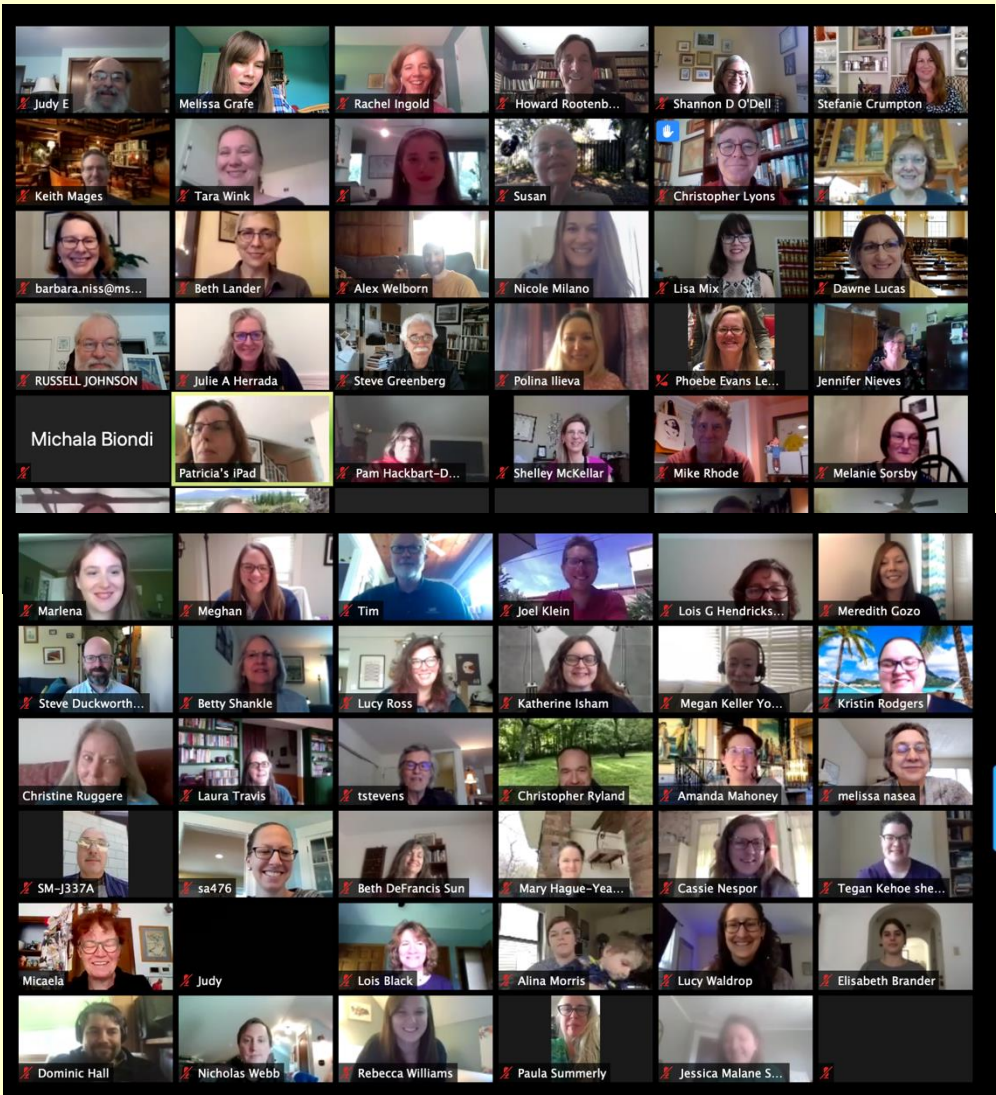
# WATERMARK

Newsletter of the Librarians, Archivists & Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences

Volume XLIII

Number 3

Summer 2020



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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 LAMPHHS. Please submit your contributions in a timely way to Stephen Novak, as e-mail attachments. Visuals should be submitted as jpegs with a resolution of at least 300 dpi if possible. Copyright clearance for content and visuals are the responsibility of the author.

**Cover Image:** Screenshots of some of the attendees of the LAMPHHS virtual annual meeting, May 7-8, 2020.

**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

What a long, odd road it's been through this particularly dark and awful stretch of history-of-medicine-in-the-making – and, of course, it's not over yet, especially in the United States. Of the many consolations I've reflected on during this lockdown – my health, having work and a paycheck, being able to “recreate” myself in my superb local parks (thank you Rockefeller family, Olmsted Brothers and, yes, even Robert Moses!) – one that comes constantly to mind is being part of the warm and supportive professional community that is Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences.

It was truly inspiring to see how so many of you stepped up to the challenge of turning our cancelled annual meeting into the stimulating online presentation it became. Kudos to the LAMPHHS board, the Program Committee, and the many speakers who participated. And here's to what I hope will be a face-to-face meeting next year in Madison.

This issue of *The Watermark* does not have as many “what I did during the pandemic” articles from our members as I hoped. But it's heartening to see from the ones we did receive how members are forging ahead with projects big and small in the face of huge disruptions in our work routines. I hope to receive more reports of how you've managed to maintain your collections and your composure in adverse circumstances for our next issue.

Stay safe and good reading!

**Stephen E. Novak**

Editor, *The Watermark*

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

This has been a most turbulent time in our country and around the world. The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting “shutdown” has taken its toll on cultural institutions, and we are just now starting to see cautious reopenings and discussions among these institutions about the best ways to welcome back visitors. However, many of our fellow librarians, archivists, and museum professionals are still suffering the loss of income and worrying about how their monthly bills will be paid. I was greatly encouraged by a recent email I received from the coordinators of the Archival Workers Emergency Fund (supported by the SAA

Foundation), asking for a donation. When I presented it to the LAMPHHS officers it got us thinking that there must also be funds for librarians and museum professionals.

There are, in fact, campaigns for all three fields, and it was decided that LAMPHHS would donate \$500 to each of the funds. If you would like any further information about applying for assistance, or are in a position to donate to any of the three funds, just click on the following links:

Archival Workers Emergency Fund: <https://awefund.wordpress.com/>

Association of Research and College Libraries Fund:

<https://www.everylibraryinstitute.org/halo>

American Alliance of Museums Museum Workers Emergency Fund:

<https://raamp.hcommons.org/museum-workers-relief-fund/>

Adding to that turmoil are the recent cases of police brutality and racism. Again, our cultural and educational institutions have stepped forth in response and have proposed change. Statements have been issued by SAA, AAM, and ALA against racism and supremacy with an appeal to workers in archives, libraries, and museums to take a good look at their collections, make changes in their policies, and adjust exhibits to represent the contributions of all races. This is a lot to think about in a profession that is filled with “lone arrangers” and it may seem daunting at first, but the LAMPHHS community is certainly up to the challenge. To quote Jeanette Bastian in *Whispers in the Archives* “Records become ‘witnesses’ to a silent society, a community that is the subject of the records rather than their makers, but one that is no less involved in their creation.” Let’s see what kind of changes we can make to our collecting practices, to the way we refer to

different races when cataloging collections, and to taking exhibit research to the next level to seek out those who made medical history behind the scenes.

The LAMPHHS 2021 annual meeting affords us an opportunity to discuss and report on changes within our institutions, whether proposed or actual. Let's hope for a face-to-face event (yes, probably still 6 feet apart), with a menu of virtual options for those who can't join us. Micaela Sullivan-Fowler is our host next year at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Micaela is an LAC veteran and has the meeting arrangements well in hand. However, assistance is always appreciated and if you would like to serve on any of the committees (program, LAC, awards and recognition) please contact me at [jks4@case.edu](mailto:jks4@case.edu).

Stay healthy and safe!

**Jennifer K. Nieves**

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## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING, MAY 7, 2020

**Librarians, Archivists and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences**

**2020 Virtual Annual Meeting**

**Business Meeting, Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 12-1:30 EST**

### **Welcome (Melissa Grafe)**

Melissa welcomed everyone to the first LAMPHHS meeting and reminded everyone about Zoom etiquette.

### **Commemoration video (Keith Mages)**

Keith Mages shared a video commemorating the lives of Linda Lohr, Lucretia McClure, and Patsy Gerstner, who have all passed away since the 2019 annual meeting.

### **Adoption of Agenda (Melissa Grafe)**



Barbara Niss motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by several people, including Jennifer Nieves. Agenda adopted.

### **Adoption of 2019 Business Meeting minutes (Dawne Howard Lucas)**

Minutes from the 2019 Business Meeting were published in the Summer 2019 issue of the *Watermark*. Lisa Mix motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Stephen Greenberg. Minutes adopted.

### **Local Arrangements Committee Report (Melissa Grafe)**

#### **LAC Members**

This year's Local Arrangements Committee members were: Melissa Grafe (chair), Gabrielle Barr, Shannon O'Dell, and Julia Pope. Gabrielle, Shannon and Julia have Michigan ties, although Melissa doesn't.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the annual meeting at Ann Arbor was canceled on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Refunds for registration were issued by ALHHS treasurer, and members were encouraged to cancel travel plans and hotel reservations. Members of the LAC quickly canceled reservations for Wednesday night dinner, the room space, catering, shuttle buses, and tours. ALHHS/MeMA did not incur any fees as a result of these cancellations. The meeting was adapted to an online meeting once presenters confirmed participation by April 15<sup>th</sup>. The narrative below documents steps for the physical meeting before cancellation.

#### **Meeting Preparation**

Melissa Grafe convened a meeting of the LAC in July 2019 to begin planning this year's meeting. Over multiple monthly meetings, Shannon O'Dell, Melissa Grafe, Julia Pope, and Gabrielle Barr identified the site for the conference sessions, deliberated food choices, examined transportation options, and planned tours. The committee used a Google spreadsheet as a checklist and Google document for notes. Phoebe Evans Letocha, Treasurer, and Rachel Ingold, Program Committee chair, joined meetings in late fall to ensure budget and programming were aligned with local arrangements.

#### **Registration**

Melissa sent out the initial ALHHS listserv announcement for conference registration on February 14<sup>th</sup>. After the physical meeting cancellation on March 15<sup>th</sup>, registrations were refunded.

### **Wednesday Night Dinner**

The LAC discussed a few options for dinner, but settled on the Original Cottage Inn, which offered a variety of options near campus. There was a lack of good restaurants in the conference hotel area. The LAC reserved a University of Michigan shuttle bus to provide rides from the conference hotel to the Original Cottage Inn. The LAC decided on the 3 entrée buffet and dessert. A drink ticket was also within budget. Including service fees, tips, and taxes, the cost came to \$55/person.

### **Meeting Location**

The Michigan League, one of the three student centers of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, was selected as the conference site. Due to problems securing a conference space, the LAC teamed up with the AAHM conference coordinator Carly Spiewak and Jodi Koste, AAHM Secretary, to piggyback on the AAHM reservations at the Michigan League. We greatly appreciate AAHM's help with securing a conference space!

### **Thursday Meals**

Michigan League events are catered only by University of Michigan catering. The LAC worked with UMich catering to identify breakfast and lunch options.

### **Tours**

LAC members created a larger checklist of possible tours and reached out to various University of Michigan libraries, museums, galleries, and gardens. We also connected, through Jodi Koste, with the graduate student who was organizing AAHM tours. That student kindly put us in touch with various University of Michigan staff organizing a larger week of medical history events.

### **Wednesday Afternoon Tours, 1 hour each**

At both 1PM and 3PM on Wednesday, the staff of the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) planned to offer sessions to interpret medical objects and art related to treatment and healing, medicines and remedies, sick and suffering, and diagnosis:

- 1-2 p.m. tour, UMMA Paper Study Room, Medicines and Remedies
- 3-4 p.m. tour, UMMA Paper Study Room, Treatment and Healing



At 2:30, a tour was arranged to see history of health materials at the William L. Clements Library, which specializes in 18th and 19th century American history.

At 3:30, a behind-the-scenes tour of the Sindecuse Museum of Dentistry with Shannon O'Dell, Director of the Sindecuse and longtime MeMA member, was arranged. Limited to 12 people.

Thursday Afternoon Tours, approximately 1 hour each

European and Islamic Medical Manuscripts tour at the [Special Collections](#) located at the Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library was planned. Limit of 25 people.

At 4:30, a behind-the-scenes tour of the Sindecuse Museum of Dentistry with Shannon O'Dell, Director of the Sindecuse and longtime MeMA member was arranged. Limited to 12 people.

Gabrielle Barr sent a link to virtual tours of collections.

Thank you to Jodi Koste and AAHM for their help with local arrangements. It was hard to find a space at the University of Michigan that could accommodate our meeting. Jodi and our AAHM colleagues also provided help with catering and tours. Many, many thanks to the Local Arrangements Committee for all their hard work on the conference planning.

Next year we are meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. Micaela Sullivan-Fowler has already begun making arrangements.

**President(s') report (Melissa Grafe and Stefanie Crumpton)**

We're so excited to welcome members to the first meeting of LAMPHHS, Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences. Our organization brings together a vibrant community of professionals across our fields in the history of the health sciences. While the members of the Medical Museums Association (MeMA) and Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) have worked together for many years and shared various parts of our conferences, as a larger group we've broken down some silos and created a stronger organization. As our Treasurer Phoebe Evans Letocha will shortly report, we have nearly 230 members in LAMPHHS, with new members joining regularly.

In last year's meeting in Columbus, Sarah Alger, former MeMA president, and Melissa did an exercise where they had members stand up based on years of membership in ALHHS and MeMA. We welcomed our new members and saw waves of people stand in increments of 5 years, going beyond 30 years of service. Our history and tradition, represented in generations of members, continues to be part of who we are as an organization. This year, we want to emphasize the importance of community, especially in these rapidly changing times due to COVID-19 and the economy. You all have access to our listserv, where you are welcome to post about trends, problems, celebrating other members, calls for help...whatever makes sense for our membership. We have Twitter and Facebook set up, and our membership directory provides ways for you to reach out to members individually--please don't hesitate to do so...we are a community! If you want other experts in the field to help in teaching, reach out. If you are trying to figure out a process, reach out. Or if you just want to meet someone, reach out!

Friendships are forged during our annual meetings, and we miss seeing all of you in person, but we know we can continue to build our community through our various video meetings related to governance or committee work or just one-on-one. And maybe we just need more virtual social hours!

We personally want to thank the many members who served on governance, various task forces, and committees these past two transitional years. Everything we've done, every announcement Melissa has sent out, was the work of many minds with the support of our larger organization. Our chairs and committee members streamlined workflows, suggested new ways to approach awards, programming, and local arrangements, and helped combine and smooth areas where MeMA and ALHHS operated differently. We worked from the blueprint outlined by our merger task force, and our web task force is currently engaged in the development of our new website. We gladly welcome our rising governance members, President Jenny Nieves, Vice President Polina Ilieva, Secretary Jamie Rees, and Members-at-Large Judy Chelnick and Christine Ruggere. And many thanks to Dawne Howard Lucas, our current Secretary, and Cassie Nespor, former MeMA secretary, as well as Emily Gustainis and Beth DeFrancis Sun, our rotating Members-at-Large, for their service.

Newer or older members, please reach out to any governance member if you want to chair or join our committee ranks for the upcoming year, or to become an officer. And welcome to all new members of LAMPHHS!

We hope you enjoy our first virtual conference! And as always, please take care and stay safe and sane. We want to see and hear you again next year.

### **Treasurer's Report (Phoebe Evans Letocha)**

We are in great shape financially. We started the fiscal year with \$50,446.88. Most of last year's meeting expenses took place during this fiscal year, although most of the income was for last fiscal year. We had higher than normal SurveyMonkey fees due to all the elections we had throughout the year. We will have some increased expenses this year due to the changeover to LAMPHHS, such as the new website and 501(c)3 status.

The organization had \$9,140.72 of income during the 2019-2020 fiscal year, and \$9,315.52 of expenses. The ending balance of the ALHHS checking account and PayPal account as of March 31, 2020 is \$50,272.08. Since our fiscal year currently runs from April to March, expenses from the 2019 annual meeting were paid for during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Going forward, our fiscal year will align with the calendar year.

Phoebe will move all money from the ALHHS account to the new LAMPHHS account once the incorporation process has been completed.

### **Membership Report (Phoebe Evans Letocha)**

#### For 2020

Membership renewals for 2020 (October 1, 2019-March 31, 2020): 175

ALHHS/MeMA Members whose 2019 dues payments were credited to 2020: 11

New Members who joined in 2020 (October 1, 2019-March 31, 2020): 19

Total members at end of fiscal year, 3/31/20: 205

Total members for 2020 through May 5: 228 (190 renewing, 11 MeMA transfers, 28 new members - 1 death)

2019 members who have not yet renewed in 2020 as of May 1: 30

Membership is growing and thriving.

#### For 2019:

Membership renewals for 2019 (October 1, 2018-March 31, 2019): 145

New Members who joined in 2019 (October 1, 2018-March 31, 2019): 26

Total members at end of fiscal year, 3/31/19: 171

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Total members for 2019 through April 15: 191 (162 renewing, 29 new members)

2018 members who have not yet renewed in 2019 as of April 15th: 24

MeMA members transferred to ALHHS in June 2019: 28

MeMA members who were also 2019 ALHHS members: 11\*

\*Members who had paid dues to both ALHHS and MeMA in 2019 had their 2<sup>nd</sup> dues payment credited for 2020

Total 2019 membership as of 12/31/2019 is: 230 (166 renewing, 28 MeMA transfers, 36 new members)

For 2018:

Membership renewals for 2018 (October 1, 2017-March 31, 2018): 144

New Members who joined in 2018 (June\* 1, 2017-March 31, 2018): 17

Total members at end of fiscal year, 3/31/18: 161

Total members for 2018 through April 30: 170

2017 members who have not yet renewed in 2018 as of April 30th: 21

Total 2018 membership as of 12/31/2018 is: 192 (153 renewing, 39 new members)

\*New Members who joined after June 2017 were credited to 2018 membership

**Program Committee Report (Rachel Ingold)**

The 2020 Program Committee includes: Daryn Glassbrook (Mobile Medical Museum), Meredith Gozo (Rare Books and Manuscripts, Miner Libraries, University of Rochester Medical Center), Michelle Marcella (Russell Museum, Massachusetts General Hospital), John Rees (National Library of Medicine, History of Medicine Division), Megan Keller Young (Special Collections, University of Illinois at Chicago), and Rachel Ingold (Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University) as Chair.

The Program Committee synthesized the 2019 program survey results which were overwhelmingly positive. Formats of greatest interest included the keynote address, lightning talks, and long-form papers. Based on feedback from our 2019 meetings, members noted their interest in presentations on the following topics:

- Embedding special collections, archives, and medical museum collections in curricula

- "Sensitive" collections and the bioethics of collecting
- Diversity and inclusion initiatives at member organizations
- Examples of digital humanities projects and infrastructure
- Born digital materials and challenges related to paper and/or digital preservation

The Program Committee sent an email to the listserv in late October 2019 regarding the upcoming program and alerted members to an upcoming call for submissions based on 2019 survey results. A message was sent in early November asking members to submit proposals via a Google form by December 16.

Along with the Google form used for submission, Meredith Gozo also suggested we offer a collaborative spreadsheet (Google sheet), borrowed from RBMS, for members on the listserv to pre-coordinate on shared interests and see what else others might be pitching. This garnered interest with four people filling out the form. We would suggest this continue to be used in the future.

Eleven proposals were submitted, including several joint proposals. All were accepted. One submission was for a poster, but after discussion the poster was turned into a paper. Those who submitted proposals were notified in January.

Our keynote speaker will be Julie Herrada. Julie is Curator of the Joseph A. Labadie Collection in the Special Collections Research Center at the University of Michigan and was highly recommended for her work with the Labadie Collection, a collection documenting the history of social protest movements and marginalized political communities from the 19th century to the present.

In March, the Steering Committee agreed that while our physical program would be canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, moving forward with a virtual program would be desirable.

Presenters were given an option of presenting live or providing a recorded talk. John Rees looked into where to host the recorded talks, and we now have a YouTube channel to host these recordings. We also asked presenters to add their talks to a 2020 LAMPHHS OSF Meetings (Open Science Framework) website, as they have in past years.

Four of the presenters whose submissions were accepted are unfortunately, but understandably, unable to participate in our virtual program. After some reconfiguring and panel distribution, we will continue to have 11 presentations and as well as our keynote lecture by Julie Herrada.

We would like to thank everyone who submitted a proposal and endured numerous emails related to planning this virtual program. A huge thanks goes to so many people for their patience, including Melissa Grafe, LAMPHHS officers, the Program Committee, and presenters.

Our 2020 program is being held via Zoom on May 7-8.

### **Nominating Committee Report (Arlene Shaner)**

The 2020 Nominating Committee was composed of Arlene Shaner (The New York Academy of Medicine), chair; Sarah Alger (Massachusetts General Hospital); Lucy Waldrop (Duke); and Judith Wiener (Ohio State). The committee was tasked with recruiting the first slate of nominees to serve ALHSS and MeMA in our newly unified form as LAMPHHS. To that end, the Nominating Committee looked for a balanced list of candidates from both organizations. As usual, emails went out to the listserv and a notice was published in the winter issue of *The Watermark* asking people to volunteer themselves or to send the names of potential candidates to any of the committee members for consideration.

The following slate was proposed:

Polina Ilieva, University of California-San Francisco, Vice President

Jamie Rees, University of Kansas Medical Center, Secretary

Christine Ruggere, Johns Hopkins University, Member-at-Large

Judy Chelnick, National Museum of American History (emerita), Member-at-Large

The ballot was created by Phoebe Evans Letocha and distributed by her to all current members of ALHHS and MeMA. Voting took place between March 16 and March 30, 2020. At the close of the election, 153 of 204 members had cast their votes (75%). The slate was elected by an overwhelming majority. New officers' terms will begin at the end of the 2020 LAMPHHS Annual Meeting.



Thanks are due to the committee members for their diligent service, to Melissa Grafe for answering many questions as they came up during this transitional year, and to Phoebe for managing the SurveyMonkey ballot.

### **Travel Scholarship Committee Report (Barbara Niss)**

The members of the Travel Scholarship Committee this year were Katherine Isham, Dawn McInnis, Barbara Niss (Chair), Lucy Ross, and Nicholas Webb. The Committee emailed as needed and held two telephone conference calls.

There were four awards offered this year:

Patsy Gerstner Travel Fund (\$300.00)

Gretchen Worden Memorial Travel Fund (\$300.00)

Joan E. Klein Travel Scholarship (two \$500.00 awards)

The Committee started work in October 2019, and the Chair created a timeline of actions and deadlines. The previous chair of the group was kind enough to send along copies of their application and scoring rubric to serve as a base for our discussions.

As the two organizations worked towards merging, the committee's first task was to create one application form based on the previous MeMA and ALHHS material. An early issue was that MeMA awards had been previously offered to volunteers and staff, while the ALHHS awards were available only to students and early career professionals. After a discussion, the committee reached out to the Steering Committees with a recommendation that all groups would be eligible but that priority for the larger awards would be given to students and early career professionals, with additional weight given for those in any category with no other funding available. The Steering Committee agreed and those criteria were used in the revised application form and in the decision making.

The Travel Scholarships were first announced on January 6<sup>th</sup> via the ALHHS/MeMA listserv, and the documents were posted on the ALHHS website. Committee members also sent the notice to other groups, including the SAA STHC section, Caduceus, and various archival training programs leaders. The notice was also posted on our organization's Facebook page. Katherine Isham created a Google site to gather the submissions. Follow-up emails were sent mid-January and twice in February.

The Committee had a phone meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> to review the applications we had received. After reviewing our rubric scoring, we selected a person to receive each of our four awards (two at \$300 and two at \$500). By this time, it had already become apparent that the meeting might need to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus. After a meeting of the Steering Committees, it was decided to not announce any winners until a decision was made. Once this happened, the Chair sent out an email to all applicants thanking them for applying and encouraging them to apply again in the 2021 cycle.

Barbara announced that the LAMPHHS Steering Committee voted to make all three scholarships \$500 going forward.

### **Publications Awards Committee Report (Polina Ilieva)**

The 2019-20 LAMPHHS Publication Awards Committee included the following members: Polina Ilieva (chair, University of California, San Francisco), Bob Vietrogoski (Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences), Steven Duckworth (Oregon Health & Science University), and Hanna Clutterbuck-Cook (Center for the History of Medicine, Countway Library, Harvard).

This year the committee in consultation with the President made one major change requiring that the authors submitting their works must be LAMPHHS members in good standing for the last 12 months. The goal for updating the language about the membership criteria was to discourage people from joining the organization just to become eligible for nomination for the publication awards (which has happened in the past).

In order to implement this new requirement Polina consulted with the membership director to confirm that the applicants were LAMPHHS members in good standing for the last 12 months.

We advertised the call for nominations on the LAMPHHS and Caduceus-I listservs and updated the announcement on the LAMPHHS website. The deadline for submissions was February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This year the LAMPHHS Publication Awards Committee received several remarkable submissions from our membership. We got nominations in two categories: journal articles (3 nominations) and books (2 nominations), we haven't received any submissions in the online resource category.

We used a Google Drive folder to share submissions and a Google Docs spreadsheet for scoring. The committee discussed submissions and selected award recipients over a conference call on February 24th. On February 28<sup>th</sup> the chair shared the names of the award recipients with the President and Treasurer.

We selected the following LAMPHHS publications award recipients for this year:

- Books published by academic or trade publishers:  
**Shelley McKellar, *Artificial Hearts* (JHUP, 2018)**
- Articles published in journals, trade or private periodicals of recognized standing:  
**Mary Hague-Yearl, *Osler Centenary Papers: Osler, Inscribed*. *Postgraduate Medical Journal* 2019; 95:637-641. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/postgradmedj-2019-136745>**

One minor issue that the committee chair wants to bring up for discussion with the Steering Committee is the requirement for a physical copy of a printed work. The awards committee recommended using a more inclusive language that incorporates e-publications to allow nominees to send a PDF, or physical copies of a printed work (photocopies are acceptable), or an URL for an e-book, article, or online resource.

### **Recognition Awards Committee Report (Stephen Greenberg)**

The committee consisted of Anne Garner, Stephen Greenberg (chair), and Stephen Novak.

#### Lisabeth M. Holloway Award

After solicitation, the committee received two nominations for the award: Judy Chelnick (nominated by Shelley McKellar), and Lisa Mix (nominated by Patricia Gallagher). Noting that the two nominees represented cross-over activities in both MeMA and ALHHS, the committee unanimously decided to put forth both nominees for the 2020 award.

#### Recognition of Merit Award

The committee received no nominations or suggestions for this award during this award cycle.

***The Watermark* Editor's Report (Steve Novak)**Publication

Since our last meeting in Columbus, four issues of *The Watermark* (v.42, n.3-v.43, n.2) have been published electronically. Issues have ranged from 29 to 54 pages with an average of 33 pages per issue (the spring issue's very low 29 pages was due to the cancellation of the Ann Arbor meeting and the subsequent lack of material about the program).

Personnel

Staff remains the same: Stephen Novak, Editor; Jack Eckert, Associate Editor; Brooke Fox, Layout Editor; Tegan Kehoe, MeMA Notes Editor; Pat Gallagher, Book Review Editor; and Sharon Butcher, Associate Book Review Editor. Russell Johnson, as webmaster, has been responsible for the timely inclusion of each issue on the ALHHS (now LAMPHHS) website.

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

Advertisers

We have four advertisers. The financial aspects of this will be found in the Treasurer's Report.

**Archives (Jodi Koste)**

There are no updates to report. There have been no requests for information.

**Social Media Report (Gabrielle Barr)**

Gabrielle reported that we have received 199 likes on the organization's Facebook page, there are 44 members of the Facebook group, and we have 62 Twitter followers. The hashtag for this meeting is #lamphhs2020.

**Website & Listserv Report (Russell Johnson and Phoebe Evans Letocha)**

Russell Johnson, site administrator

[rjohnson@library.ucla.edu](mailto:rjohnson@library.ucla.edu)

[alhhs-l@lists.ucla.edu](mailto:alhhs-l@lists.ucla.edu) listserv

ALHHS (Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences) Treasurer Phoebe Evans Letocha and I communicated regularly about renewals, non-renewals, and new members, to make list subscriptions reflect active membership in the society. We both had access and editing rights to the list – Phoebe added email addresses when people joined ALHHS or restored memberships after they lapsed, for example. This also is good list-management practice, in case one editor is unavailable or indisposed.

The list was decommissioned (postings by most members are no longer possible) in time for the ALHHS/MeMA/LAMPHHS (Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences) meeting 7-8 May 2020. Members were subscribed to a members-only Google group ([lamphhs@googlegroups.com](mailto:lamphhs@googlegroups.com)) by May 4<sup>th</sup>. The new mail group is administered by the LAMPHHS Treasurer.

We are investigating how and where to preserve the ALHHS-L list archives.

### Website

Since various kerfuffles led to our **alhhs.org** name being poached in 2019, we have operated the ALHHS website under the unaliased, “actual” URL:

<http://iis-exhibits.library.ucla.edu/alhhs/index.html>

ALHHS/MeMA formed a joint Website Task Force to secure a new domain name (**lamphhs.org**; it is paid for 5 years but not activated yet), select a host utility, hire a designer, and appoint members to a management group for the successor society, LAMPHHS.

The ALHHS website has a new look, going into the annual meeting in May 2020, to reflect the change to LAMPHHS. This rebranding was necessary as a component of the application for 501(c)3 status for the new society. The majority of the content of the public-facing site reads as “LAMPHHS”.

The ALHHS components of the website were not deleted. Some documents (such as lists of past officers and pages for annual meetings) are linked from the LAMPHHS pages. Others were not deleted, just hidden from public view.

We are investigating whether we can successfully alias [www.lamphhs.org](http://www.lamphhs.org) to its underlying actual address, <http://iis-exhibits.library.ucla.edu/alhhs/index.html>. In the meantime, the long address continues to be the access point. However, we load plenty of metadata into the HTML coding of our web pages, so a Google search of the term "LAMPHHS" (without quotes) favors links to our website!

In response to a question from Melissa Grafe, Russell Johnson said approximately 700 MB of data will need to be archived from the old website. This number includes all of *The Watermark* issues. There are approximately 500 files total.

## New Business

### Discussion of transition to LAMPHHS

Melissa Grafe said that it's been quite a journey over the past two years to combine ALHHS and MeMA into LAMPHHS. She feels that we now are rapidly moving forward with details we had been juggling to make LAMPHHS a reality, including the website and financial and legal transitions.

**Legal:** We have been working with a pro bono lawyer based in Massachusetts, who will be working with Jennifer Nieves and Phoebe Evans Letocha going forward. We had to revise the bylaws several times, but the version we voted on in March are the correct bylaws that we will be operating under moving forward. We are now working on the applications for incorporation in Massachusetts and 501(c)3 status.

**Website:** Sarah Alger said that the website task force recommended hiring the design firm VIZfire to build a user-friendly WordPress site for LAMPHHS. VIZfire will also design a new logo for free. VIZfire will give us logo options to pick from. We can get feedback from LAMPHHS membership regarding vetted options. LAMPHHS is also considering using a product such as Wild Apricot for website and membership database management. Russell Johnson shared the changes he has made to the existing website to show that the organization is now LAMPHHS.

**Archives:** The MeMA archives are housed at the Dittrick Museum at Case Western Reserve University. They have been processed and can be accessed. Cassie Nespor and Shannon O'Dell have some records to transfer, but otherwise nothing new should be coming in. Jodi Koste has been holding onto the ALHHS archives for the past several



years. LAMPHHS is talking to another organization about having the ALHHS archives transferred to them to ensure that files are more accessible going forward, especially for born-digital materials.

### COVID-19

**Member Support:** Melissa Grafe is cognizant about the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on LAMPHHS, the membership, and next year's conference, and has been talking to other members about what's going on in their organizations. She said LAMPHHS is a strong, growing organization, and that she feels strongly that the organization is fine and here to support all members. She said that members should not hesitate to reach out, and pointed out the different ways to make contact, including social media, the listserv, and email.

**2021 Meeting and Other Programming:** Micaela Sullivan-Fowler has already begun working with AAHM and LAMPHHS to secure spaces for the May 12, 2021, meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. Spaces for the annual meeting and Steering Committee meeting have already been reserved, and she has strong leads for the dinner. She is working with the optimistic view that we will be able to hold an in-person meeting in 2021, but we will be able to adapt if not.

We might need to have a hybrid conference with some virtual presentations for members who will not be able to secure travel funding. Pat Gallagher pointed out that some venues might charge for streaming services.

Melissa Grafe asked if LAMPHHS could perhaps provide other virtual programming options beyond the annual meeting, such as webinars. Perhaps there could be a virtual program in the fall, although perhaps that would be too much with the uncertainty of what will be happening at that time. We could also have informal sessions such as the social where people can casually talk about issues. Shannon O'Dell commented that she would like to learn more about what other organizations are doing in response to COVID-19. Rachel Ingold commented that one presenter asked if they could change their presentation to address this topic, but the Program Committee wanted them to stick with the initial presentation that was accepted to the program. Other related ideas mentioned include how people have adapted to online teaching, providing access virtually, collecting initiatives, and a lightning round about adapting to COVID-19.

Committees

Howard Rootenberg asked if there was a listing of all LAMPHHS committees, and if there is a need for committee volunteers. Melissa Grafe responded that there is a list of committees on the LAMPHHS website. In the past, committee chairs have been responsible for filling committee vacancies. This year, Melissa put out a call for volunteers in order to ensure that there was a good mix of representation for factors such as age and work expertise. Jennifer Nieves will send out a similar notice for volunteers this year.

**Adjournment**

Melissa Grafe “gave” the ceremonial bottle of aspirin, toilet paper, and a Cadbury egg to new LAMPHHS president Jennifer Nieves, and then asked everyone to turn on their video so she could take a picture. Stephen Greenberg motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Shannon O’Dell. Melissa Grafe adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Dawne Howard Lucas**

LAMPHHS Secretary

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## FINANCIAL REPORT, 2019-2020

### Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences 2019-2020 Financial Report

<b>Ending balance in checking account as of 3/31/2019:</b>	<b>\$32,696.46</b>
<b>Balance in PayPal Account as of 3/31/2019:</b>	<b>\$17,750.42</b>
<b>Total Funds Available 3/31/2019:</b>	<b>\$50,446.88</b>

#### Income 4/1/2019-3/31/2020

2019 membership renewals (5 checks, 12 PayPal x\$15)	\$255.00
2019 new memberships, includes new MeMA (2 check, 4 PayPal x \$15)	\$90.00
2019 Annual Meeting:	
Dinner & Meeting, regular member (3 PayPal x\$95)	\$285.00

**The W a t e r m a r k**

**Volume XLIII**

**Number 3 (Summer 2020)**

Dinner & Meeting, non-member (1 check x\$110)	\$110.00
Meeting only, regular member (1 check, 2 PayPal x\$40)	\$120.00
Meeting only, non-member (4 PayPal x\$55)	\$220.00
Meeting & tour, regular member (1 PayPal (\$55)	\$55.00
Tour only (1 PayPal \$15)	\$15.00
Dinner only (1 PayPal x\$55)	\$55.00
Refund to members from PayPal from cancelled meeting, tours	(\$120.00) *8 tour refunds @ \$15 each
MeMA checking account balance transfer	\$4,665.72
Donation from Judith Robins	\$15.00
2020 membership renewals (32 checks, 139 PayPal x\$15)	\$2,565.00
2020 new memberships (2 checks, 16 PayPal x\$15)	\$270.00
2020 Watermark advertising (3 PayPal x\$180)	\$540.00
2020 Annual Meeting:	Canceled meeting fees were all refunded
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$9,140.72</b>
<b>Expenses 4/1/2019-3/31/2020</b>	
<u>Annual Meeting 2019, Columbus, Ohio</u>	
Charter Bus, Ohio State University	\$677.12
German Village Tours	\$520.00
Dinner (Barley's Brewing Company)	\$2,918.32
Meeting breakfast catering (OSU)	\$1,194.00
Meeting Lunch catering (OSU)	\$1,093.74
Speaker honorarium	\$300.00
Annual Meeting total	<b>\$6,703.18</b>
Tiffany Awards	\$919.13
Travel Scholarships	\$1,000.00
SurveyMonkey fees (voting)	\$407.00
Reimbursement for book review mailings	\$15.63
Reimbursement for book award mailings	\$24.24
PayPal fees (excluding 2020 annual meeting)	\$246.34
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$9,315.52</b>
<b>Ending balance in checking account as of 3/31/2020:</b>	<b>\$48,088.00</b>
<b>Balance in PayPal Account as of 3/31/2020:</b>	<b>\$2,184.08</b>
<b>Total Funds Available 3/31/2020:</b>	<b>\$50,272.08</b>

## LINDA LOHR, 1949-2020



Linda A. Lohr, MA, died peacefully at the age of 71, surrounded by family on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, after a long struggle with ovarian cancer. Daughter of the late Leonard and Helen Lohr, she is survived by her beloved nephew John (Ambyre) Pace and great-nephews Benjamin and Evan Pace.

Ms. Lohr was the Curator of the Robert L. Brown History of Medicine Collection at the Health Sciences Library of the University at Buffalo (UB), a position she held for 23 years. Prior to this role, she was the Assistant to the Director of the UB Health Sciences

Library from 1979 to 1997, appointed as Curator after the retirement of her mentor, Ms. Lilli Sentz, immediate-past Curator of the R.L. Brown Collection.

Born in Lackawanna, New York, Ms. Lohr was a 1966 graduate of East Aurora High School. As a lover of languages, she majored in French and Italian at SUNY Albany, earning a bachelor's degree in 1970 and a master's degree in languages and education in 1972. She received her New York State teaching certificate in French and also had knowledge of Russian, Spanish and Latin. She attended the University of Virginia's Rare Book School, completing coursework in special collection librarianship.

Her love of the R. L. Brown Collection was well known. Ms. Lohr enthusiastically and expertly shared its contents and stories at UB alumni events, community health fairs, local dental conventions, and historical societies. Aside from assisting researchers, she also enjoyed collaborating with UB undergraduate and medical school teaching faculty, as well as with Erie 1 BOCES Health Careers students, and Italian medical students through the Annual Professor Giovanni Mazzotti Italian-American Conference on Human Anatomy, Research and Healthcare Professions.

Ms. Lohr was passionate about mentorship, having taught and guided a generation of graduate students from UB's library science and history departments through practicum and employment opportunities. Guiding these students, she spearheaded and oversaw

the indexing of the *Buffalo Medical Journal*, published from 1845-1919 (<https://library.buffalo.edu/historyofmedicine/buffalo-medical-journal/>). Ms. Lohr authored or co-authored 15 papers in the history of medicine and special collection librarianship, many of these written with frequent collaborator Edward Fine, MD, on the history of neurology. She also, along with Keith Mages, was awarded funding from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Mid-Atlantic Region, for the digitization of the Dr. Homer T. Jackson's Collection, which included handwritten notebooks and photographs from an early UB alumnus, dating from the late 1870's.

A member of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (now LAMPHHS) since 1996, Ms. Lohr served as a member of the organization's Steering Committee (2002-03), as Editor of *The Watermark* (2003-04), as well as on the Recognition Awards Committee (2017-18). She was also a member of the American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM), advised as a member of the Western New York Library Resources Council's Preservation Committee, and served as secretary/treasurer of the Friends of the [UB] Health Sciences Library.

Of all her accomplishments, one of Ms. Lohr's most lasting legacies may be the establishment of the *Linda Lohr Endowed Fund for the History of Medicine* at UB's Health Sciences Library. Created in 2018 to ensure the future of the Collection, the Fund's intention was explained by her in *UB Libraries Today* (Spring 2019, p.2):

*"I've been thinking about this for some time... The endowment will fund materials, staffing and supplies, and will be used to support, at least in part, a curator position. This is something I'm delighted to be able to do...not for me, but for the future of the History of Medicine Collection."*

Linda was a keen lover of animals, sang in her church choir, and enjoyed medieval music, true-crime television, and glass art. She was an inspiration to all, and her love of history, her friendship, and her laughter will be dearly missed.

### **Keith C. Mages**

Norton M. Luger MD Clinical Medical Librarian

Weill Cornell Medicine

*Photo by Julie Pavlock*

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## MEMBER PROFILE



**Name:** Nicholas Webb

**Member of ALHHS since:** 2013

**Hometown:** Harrison, NY

**Current Employer and Position:** I'm the Archivist & Digital Preservation Librarian at New York Medical College, located forty minutes north of New York City in Valhalla, NY. I've been here for just over a year and am the first full-time professional archivist on staff, so I'm wearing multiple hats as an archival lone arranger and digital preservationist who

also serves as curator of the library's collection of rare books and vintage instruments. Before joining NYMC I spent a decade as the Digital Archivist in the Aufses Archives of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in Manhattan, where I established a digital repository for the Archives and was responsible for the archives of the Beth Israel Medical Center after it was acquired by Mount Sinai.

**Education:** I have a BA in History from Yale and an MSIS in Archives & Records Administration from the University at Albany.

**Professional interests:** I've been interested in digital preservation since I was a graduate student, and I'm particularly interested in strategies by which small archives with limited resources can be effective stewards of their digital resources. One professional question that I often find myself contemplating is "how is a digital archivist *not* like an IT professional?" We need a certain level of technical skill to maintain digital collections effectively, and we don't want to devalue this labor relative to other professions, but we also don't want to find ourselves in circumstances where we're in over our heads and doing work that really *should* be done by a professional software developer or systems administrator. It's a complicated question to which there's no "one size fits all" solution.

More recently, I've become absorbed in the history of medicine in New York City, an endlessly fascinating subject which has now become my professional focus. When Mount Sinai acquired the Lower East Side's Beth Israel Medical Center in 2013, I became responsible for its archives in addition to my ongoing digital preservation work for the Sinai collections. Becoming the authority on the history of a major Manhattan



hospital was my gateway to just how much of New York's history can be understood through the lens of the history of medicine (and vice versa), from the early colonial encounters between the Dutch and the Algonquins to the COVID-19 epidemic that we're all living through as I write these words. Every hospital, medical school, doctor, nurse, and patient in New York has their own story. I'm fortunate to be the archivist for an especially interesting part of this history (NYMC was founded as a homeopathic college and was an early leader in medical education for women and African-Americans) and to have a wonderful group of local colleagues in the informal Medical Archivists of New York meetup.

**Other facts, interests, or hobbies:** Most of my free time is spent with my very active three-year-old, and getting to spend a lot of time outdoors with her has been a silver lining of the COVID-19 lockdown. My historical interests outside of work include American politics during the Great Depression and Cold War, which were my areas of focus as an undergraduate, and the local history of New York City's suburbs. As a student I was a college radio DJ and record reviewer, focusing mostly on underground rock and experimental music, and I had recently started dipping a toe back into that world with a New Year's resolution to see live music no less than once a week on "my dad's night out," but that plan has unfortunately been put on hold due to the coronavirus.

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## FAREWELL TO "MEMA NOTES"

### Not Goodbye, but *Au Revoir*

I've had the pleasure of serving as the MeMA Notes editor since Summer 2017. This year, in response to the merger becoming fully official, the rest of the *Watermark* team and I have decided it no longer makes sense to have a separate corner of *The Watermark* for museums.

In my time as column editor, the MeMA community has shared business meeting reports, messages of leadership "changing of the guard," and photographs from the annual meeting. We have welcomed six colleagues with new member highlights; shared museum exhibits, tours, and events on topics including vaccines, wartime medicine,

forensics, medical illustration, and the tooth fairy; and celebrated awards and new acquisitions.

At the 2019 annual meeting, the one concern some members of the group had about discontinuing MeMA Notes was that museums would be less well represented in the journal than archives. However, as we discussed, the biggest and frequently sole obstacle to museums being represented in *The Watermark* is how often museum professionals submit content. As far as I can tell, having our own corner is not a big factor in how often people submit, so I expect that merging into the rest of *The Watermark* as one big happy LAMPHHS family will work well. In that light, this is not goodbye, but until we see each other again – and I hope I see all of you in the pages of *The Watermark*.

### Tegan Kehoe

Paul S. Russell, MD, Museum of Medical History & Innovation  
Massachusetts General Hospital

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

- **Reminder!** NLM Welcomes Applications to its Michael E. DeBakey Fellowship in the History of Medicine for 2021. Applications due September 25, 2020. [Learn more.](#)
- **NLM Reading Rooms remain closed to the public until further notice in continued accordance with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and to promote social distancing.** During this period, NLM online resources remain available, including [NLM Digital Collections](#) and [PubMed Central](#). NLM continues to provide interlibrary loan (ILL) services from electronically available resources. For the latest NLM ILL service information check [here](#). For the latest NLM Reading Room information check [here](#).
- [Watch the archived livestream](#) of the **NLM/HMD research symposium** *Reporting, Recording, and Remembering the 1918 Influenza Epidemic* held in cooperation with Virginia Tech as part of the ongoing NLM/National Endowment for the Humanities [partnership](#) to collaborate on research, education, and career

initiatives. [Learn more](#) about the symposium from the *NIH Record*, and check out the [NIH Videocast archive of History of Medicine programs](#), including Dr. Joanna Radin, Yale University, speaking on [When People are Data: How Medical History Matters for Our Digital Age](#).

- [“How the genetic code was cracked, with paper and pencil and no computers.”](#) NLM/HMD collections of Marshall W. Nirenberg featured in *The Washington Post*.
- **The NLM Web Collecting and Archiving Working Group continues to [identify and select web and social media content](#) documenting the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak as part of NLM’s Global Health Events web archive collection.** Now including 1,300+ URLs (300+ gigabytes), the collection includes federal, state, and local government COVID-19 pages, websites of disaster relief agencies and NGOs, and content documenting life in quarantine, prevention measures, the experiences of healthcare workers, patients, and more. The group is actively reviewing recommended content for inclusion in the archive (2,300+ URLs to date), scoping and running crawls of content using Archive-It and Conifer (formerly Webrecorder), reviewing archived sites for quality, and adding metadata. The group continues to engage with other cultural heritage organizations archiving the history of COVID-19, including the group spearheaded by the leadership of the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, as well as the group of federal agencies who meet regularly to discuss their respective initiatives. The NLM Web Collecting and Archiving Working Group also continued to engage with the Society of American Archivists Web Archiving Roundtable, the Archive-It community, the National Digital Stewardship Alliance, and is contributing to and following the growing list of institutions collecting COVID-19 related content maintained by the [Documenting the Now](#) project. Nominations for content to include in NLM’s Global Health Events collection remain welcome via [nlmwebcollecting@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:nlmwebcollecting@nlm.nih.gov). NLM also continues to participate as an institutional contributor to a broader [International Internet Preservation Consortium \(IIPC\) Novel Coronavirus outbreak web archive collection](#). IIPC registered their Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) collection in the [World Pandemic Research Network](#), [here](#). Individual recommendations for the IIPC collection can be submitted using the form available [here](#).
- **NLM Associate Fellows 2020-2021**

NLM is pleased to announce our 2020-2021 class of Associate Fellows.

Amanda J. Wilson, Chief, Office of Engagement and Training, said about the incoming Associate Fellows, “We’re excited to welcome the 2020-2021 Associate Fellows who arrive at a time when the NLM is strategically connecting its research, and the research of NIH, to address the public health challenges that face us today. We’re looking forward to our new colleagues joining us in our mission.”

Dianne Babski, Acting Associate Director for Library Operations commented that, “We expect to see these early career librarians to actively engage in the NLM focus on data science from data management to data visualization; from open educational resources to data sharing policies. The 2020-2021 Associate Fellows will have a unique opportunity to learn and craft our collective future.”

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

More information on the Associate Fellowship Program is available at:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/about/training/associate/proginfo.html>

**Brianna Chatmon** received her MLIS at the University of Missouri in 2020. While obtaining her degree, Chatmon interned at the J. Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library. During her internship she worked on various assignments to grow her professional network and develop a deeper knowledge of medical librarianship. Chatmon helped create easy follow-along virtual tutorials to assist health professionals and medical students in their database searches. Chatmon also assisted with community health outreach activities at regional and local conferences. Additionally, Chatmon, worked at the Hugh Stephens Library where she helped coordinate monthly library programming and interactive exhibits and assisted with a stack maintenance project to downsize a 300,000-book collection digitally and physically. Chatmon holds a BG in Liberal Arts and Science from the University of Kansas.

**Allison Cruise** received her MLIS from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in December 2019. While completing her degree, she worked as an intern at the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, engaging in data entry tasks,

providing document delivery services, and assisting research analysts and library visitors. While at North Carolina Biotechnology Center, she became a full-time research associate, maintaining a client database, assisting with an embedded librarianship contract, and providing literature searches and other research projects. She holds a BS in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Levi Dolan** received his MLIS from the University of Missouri-Columbia in the spring of 2020. At MU, he was the graduate library assistant for the J. Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library and a research assistant for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. During his time in library school, he also worked as a library supervisor and tutor at Stephens College in Columbia, MO. For his practicum, he was a teaching assistant and co-project manager for a Library Carpentries workshop held in St. Louis, sponsored by the Missouri Hub of the Digital Public Library of America. He was elected president of MU's ALA Student Chapter for 2018-2019 and served on the University Libraries Student Advisory Committee. He holds a BTh in Theology from Ozark Christian College.

**Amanda Sawyer** will graduate with her MLIS from the University of Pittsburgh in August 2020. Sawyer has a background in archives and digital services in both museums and libraries. She has worked as the Digital Projects Assistant at Gumberg Library, Duquesne University, since 2018 where she contributes to data analysis and visualization projects, manages digital collections and assists with the university's institutional repository, and provides reference services. Sawyer holds a BA in History, Music, and Chinese and an MA in Museum Studies from Baylor University.

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## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

### News from the Historical Medical Library, The College of Physicians of Philadelphia

The College closed to both staff and the public with just three hours' notice on March 12<sup>th</sup>. This gave the staff of the HML barely enough time to secure the collection, much less prepare for what we all thought at the time would be no more than a six-week closure.

Until late May, staff lacked remote access to servers at the College, which prevented us from having access to current work files, limiting what we might have been able to do during quarantine. Instead, we focused on work that could be supported by our digital resources.

The College has yet to lay off any staff and has struggled to be equitable in ensuring capacity to work at home, a challenge for the Library when work is limited to the digital realm and when the staff you've been charged with supervising are not librarians. The Library stepped up to the plate and is "employing" four part-time Visitor Services (VS) staff in a [transcription project](#) using content being digitized under the CLIR funded project *For the Health of the New Nation...*

Mary Hanes, Collections Management Librarian, and her intrepid staff, removed from their usual task of deaccessioning and metadata enhancement, are working on a number of other transcription projects. Mutter Museum staff are working with VS staff to transcribe object catalog cards. Hanes *et al.* are taking that transcribed data and updating object records in our [merged catalog](#), ensuring redundancy of unique information and enhancing the potential for discovery. They are also cleaning and releasing to the catalog records for objects in the [Chevalier Jackson collection](#), forever sealing in their Scrabble memories the spelling of "cricopharyngeal."

In addition to assisting the Museum, Hanes has supervised the transcription of the [S. Weir Mitchell Longitudinal Studies](#), which were conducted on Civil War soldiers who would now be diagnosed with Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS). The transcriptions are attached to the digitized record for ease of use, an example of which can be seen [here](#).

Hanes and Chrissie Perella, Archivist, have developed a structure for an oral history program that will be used by various College departments over the coming months to document the work and reminiscences of College Fellows as well as College staff. Perella is also developing an [aggregator](#) that is recording the response of the College to the COVID-19 outbreak. This site will continue to document the College's response to this public health crisis for a year from the point when the city of Philadelphia issued its shut down order on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We anticipate returning to work in mid-July, with the library reopening to researchers in September under terms of restricted access. Check our [website](#) for further updates.



**Beth Lander, MLS**

College Librarian

The Robert Austrian Chair

Director, F.C. Wood Institute for the History of Medicine

**News from the Dittrick Museum: Creating An Educational Collection**

During the fall of 2019, the Dittrick Museum piloted a new approach to undergraduate course projects using our collections at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). We partnered with a CWRU faculty member to pilot a series of object-centered assignments for a first-year writing seminar, "The History of Technology." After a successful test run of the project, we are currently in the process of adapting the assignments for the fall 2020 semester, which in response to COVID-19 will be delivered both online and in-person using social distancing restrictions. Trying out new-to-us ideas for educational programming continues to teach us valuable lessons as we explore new directions for the Dittrick Museum.

This initiative, currently known as the "Dittrick Educational Collection," was devised by the Dittrick team during the summer of 2019 in an effort to improve and streamline our delivery of educational programming. The Dittrick Museum had an excellent track record of supporting course assignments based on our collections. However, the approaches that worked well with a larger staff were simply no longer sustainable. We launched an inventory of the collection during the spring of 2019 (which will take multiple years to complete) and an unexpected facility issue was demanding an ever-increasing amount of staff time. Our team also suspected that creating course projects and assignments with instructors, rather than waiting for them to approach us with an idea developed without input from the professional museum team, might result in better educational outcomes for our students.

During the early stages of our inventory project, we quickly realized that the Dittrick collection included objects of tremendous educational value that were not necessarily appropriate for our permanent collection. Examples include an early 1970s library computer terminal and a late 20th century spectrophotometer. Also, there were a number of damaged, duplicate, or irrelevant objects housed with the collection that had never been accessioned or processed, such as stethoscopes with denatured rubber tubing. It was also apparent that our museum ancestors of the 1960s and 1970s were extremely diligent when processing objects and passionately opposed to culling donations. Thus we have the entire contents of multiple physicians' desks, including

office supplies and the full contents of junk drawers as well as dozens of duplicates of serology test kits and other clinical supplies in the Dittrick's permanent collection. The team selected approximately 20 objects that were either unprocessed or very obvious candidates for deaccession that could be handled by students with minimal supervision and named this assemblage the "Dittrick Educational Collection."



***Scrip Writing Fluid, HC1967.011.003, Educational Collection, Dittrick Museum, Case Western Reserve University. Accessioned with the complete contents of Robert N. Fluent, MD's Cleveland office in 1967.***

When a CWRU instructor inquired about designing her new course around a collections-based project, this group of interesting but low-priority objects came immediately to mind. We hoped the Dittrick Educational Collection would enable us to provide first-year writing seminar students multiple opportunities to handle and closely observe the historical artifact at the center of their class assignments despite the limitations caused by our facilities issue. The course assignments, which included an object analysis, research paper, and

exhibition label were designed from scratch with the instructor. From the museum's perspective, having a pre-determined set of objects available for the class enabled us to plan the hands-on sessions well ahead of time, photograph the objects before the start of class, and have relevant primary and secondary sources at the ready. This made it possible for the Dittrick team to support a semester's worth of workshops and assignments despite our unexpectedly heavy workload. This model freed the instructor from a considerable amount of logistical issues including guiding students to select an object from our enormous permanent collection, scheduling multiple museum visits, and linking students to relevant primary and secondary sources housed at the museum.

Of course, our pilot project had some major flaws. Students enjoyed the mandatory object workshops but optional support sessions at the museum were sparsely attended. Several students who skipped these sessions approached the museum team for individualized help at the end of the semester, overloading our schedules. The collaborative team did not set clear expectations or formally define the role of the

instructor, chief curator, and archivist/registrar in supporting student research when designing the series of assignments. This resulted in too many back-and-forth conversations via email and some confusion amongst the students, all of which could have been avoided. Both the instructor, an experienced guest curator, and the museum staff knew that a student-curated exhibit was out of the question for a first-year writing seminar. The Dittrick team created a small, publicly-accessible display using the students' exhibit labels and their selected objects to reveal the arduous process of writing label copy to our visitors. Though this display is an excellent public introduction to the Educational Collection, we did not feel it successfully engaged students in the exhibit-making process. For our fall 2019 pilot, we included a few durable permanent collection objects to broaden the range of research options for the class. Students were not allowed to freely handle these objects, which led to some confusion and required an additional layer of supervision by museum staff. We concluded that the use of permanent collection objects needs to be phased out as we build a well-rounded Educational Collection, especially if we want students to work independently with artifacts.



***Beckman Spectrophotometer 1990.018.029 Educational Collection, Dittrick Museum, Case Western Reserve University. This spectrophotometer was used in a hospital laboratory up until 1990. Multiple repositories include this identical model***

As we adapt the “History of Technology” assignments and the Dittrick Educational Collection for dual delivery teaching next semester, our team is exploring more ways to improve the efficiency, efficacy, and quality of our educational projects. It has become apparent that while the cataloging photos we provided worked well as reference images, they are not sufficient for scenarios when a student can't be physically present with the object. More comprehensive photography is necessary in order for the Educational Collection to be accessible to all students moving forward. The instructor suggested integrating the Dittrick's contribution to the class into the course Canvas site, an obvious

organizational approach we never considered pre-COVID. The chief curator is adapting her didactic contributions to the course to include discussions of the limitations of digital collections and the information we can only glean from material culture. These are just the challenges we've thought about; doubtless, our team will encounter unexpected roadblocks to putting our collections to use this year. We look forward to sharing our success (and failures) with this project on the pages of a future *Watermark*!

### **Public Health Museum Launches Pandemic Project**

The Public Health Museum in Tewksbury, Massachusetts, is excited to announce our pandemic project, which will launch on our website in early July! You will be able to view it at: <https://www.publichealthmuseum.org/>.

The Pandemic Project is a response by the Public Health Museum to the current Novel Coronavirus Pandemic declared by WHO in March 2020.

The museum has focused on the historical aspects of public health and will continue to seek lessons learned from the past to apply to the current circumstances. The project will provide basic definitions and common public health approaches that can be applied to the work being done today.

Once live, we welcome visitor input about the material that is posted. We hope this project will eventually lead to a (virtual or in-person) conference on some of the topics that are of high interest.

### **Ashlynn Rickord Werner, MTS**

Public Health Museum Board Member & Volunteer

### **News from Weill Cornell Medicine**

Weill Cornell Medicine's (WCM) Samuel J. Wood Library and the Medical Center Archives of NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine (NYP/WCM) have recently received funding from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Mid-Atlantic Region (NNLM MAR) in support of our project *From Snake Oil to Social Media: Pharmaceutical Advertising and Medication Literacy for Health Care Consumers*.

This educational initiative for health care consumers brings together librarians from WCM and an archivist and pharmacist from NYP/WCM to create an asynchronous

interactive webpage-based online workshop on historical and modern methods of medical and pharmaceutical advertising, enduring issues in medication regulation and safety, and the ongoing importance of patient engagement, including advertising and medication literacy.

Created using the Drupal content management platform, the workshop website will be hosted on the Samuel J. Wood Library's webpage and will feature textual narratives, video vignettes, interactive timelines, and illustrative images. Images will include a collection of 19th and early 20<sup>th</sup> century medical trade cards preserved in the Medical Center Archives, digitized as part of this project. In this way, insights and imagery drawn from the archival collection will be juxtaposed against those found in modern day pharmaceutical advertisements. This digital content will culminate with resources to bolster participants' advertising and medication literacy. This will include presenting key questions consumers should ask when viewing medication advertisements, an overview of reputable consumer-focused online drug information sources from the National Library of Medicine and the Food and Drug Administration, as well as methods to facilitate discussions with health care providers, pharmacists, or librarians.

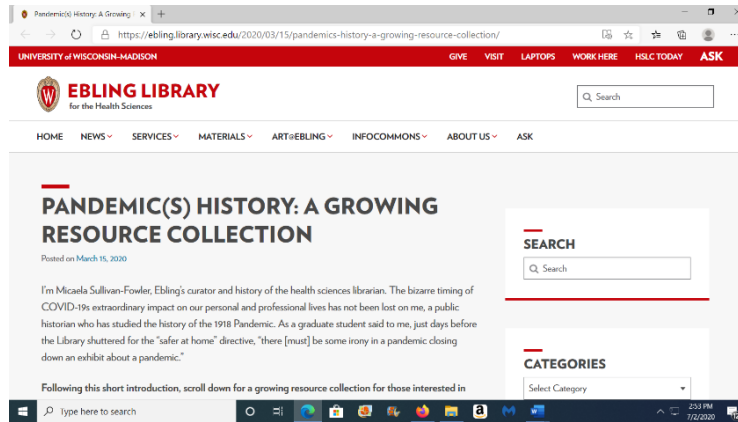
We see this as an exciting opportunity to blend primary source materials with patient education, and we are looking forward to actualizing the project and to analyzing and reporting on its impact!

**Keith C. Mages**

Norton M. Luger M.D. Clinical Medical Librarian  
Samuel J. Wood Library, Weill Cornell Medicine

**Nicole J. Milano**

Head, Medical Center Archives  
NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine

**While Quarantined in Madison...**

If our recent "social hour" discussion during the non Ann Arbor annual meeting is any indication, most of us have been even busier than when we were physically at our institutions. And, as a graduate student said to me, as we gathered our monitors and keyboards to work remotely, "what are the chances that your exhibition on a Pandemic would be shuttered by a Pandemic?" Yep, having been extended 3 times, my exhibition, "Staggering Losses: WW1 and the Influenza Pandemic of 1918," was called prescient by some, prophetic by others, and my husband has taken to identifying COVID-19 the PandeMIC, after his wife.

I've been interviewed a handful of times about the differences and similarities of the two pandemics, the latest of which was this piece in the University of Wisconsin's *Today at UW* online newsletter, by writer Kari Knutson:

[https://news.wisc.edu/unimaginable-loss-unimaginable-resilience-remembering-the-pandemic-of-1918/?fbclid=IwAR0SbCAjcbllgWDOQqm\\_np0IfYKjo3XXzROzJGGVylXhltHEjgJd3f8aJyk](https://news.wisc.edu/unimaginable-loss-unimaginable-resilience-remembering-the-pandemic-of-1918/?fbclid=IwAR0SbCAjcbllgWDOQqm_np0IfYKjo3XXzROzJGGVylXhltHEjgJd3f8aJyk)

As ever, UW's collections were the stars, and, of course, other questions have arisen because of that article. Especially the "how did students feel during the pandemic, how did they cope?" We have little evidence of such feelings, other than the angst over the canceled football games and dances. So, kudos to those of you whose institutions are capturing the archival record during our current quarantine.

As head of the Ebling Library's Marketing & Communications, I have also been keeping the home page and social media vehicles updated with relevant information. These are two compilations that are currently on our home page and will likely become Library/Research Guides when we have time to reformat them.

## #Blacklivesmatter: Resources for All

<https://ebling.library.wisc.edu/2020/06/08/blacklivesmatter-resources-for-all/>

## Pandemic(s) History: A Growing Resource Collection

<https://ebling.library.wisc.edu/2020/03/15/pandemics-history-a-growing-resource-collection/>

Please do share if useful, advise if you have additional resources I could add, or find an errant typo. E-mail me directly if need be. I hope everyone is staying...sane and healthy. We are feeling somewhat feral at the PandeMIC complex, but drafting this Watermark contribution has helped get me back on track. Till we (hopefully!) see you in Madison in 2021...

**Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, M.S., M.A.**

Distinguished Academic Librarian  
Head of Marketing & Special Communications  
Curator & History of the Health Sciences Librarian  
Ebling Library for the Health Sciences  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

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## BOOK REVIEWS

**Bob Luke. *Bromo-Seltzer King: The Opulent Life of Captain Isaac "Ike" Emerson, 1859-1931.* Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 2019. 204 p. \$35.00. ISBN 978-1-4766-7482-7.**

Of the thousands of patent medicines that crowded the market of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century America, none was as iconic and as recognizable in its distinctive cobalt blue bottle than Bromo-Seltzer. The effervescent headache, upset stomach, hangover remedy was the invention of Isaac Emerson, often known in his day simply as "the Captain" for his love of the sea and high-profile nautical pursuits. This is his story.

Gaining knowledge of pharmacy and pharmaceutical compounding from course work in chemistry at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and from apprenticeships, Emerson created a concoction trademarked as a "granular effervescent salt" named Bromo-Seltzer which made him a fortune. By spring of 1889 he sold his North Carolina



drug stores and relocated to Baltimore where he became a full-time manufacturer of the product and head of the Emerson Drug Company.

To say that Bromo-Seltzer was successful would be an understatement. By the time of the Captain's death on January 23, 1931, he left an estate worth \$20 million. But the bulk of Luke's story comprises Emerson's wealth and status as an industrial giant who became the centerpiece of every major American newspaper's society page, made all the more salacious by the bitter divorce from his first wife (globe-trotting Emma/Emilie), followed, six weeks later, by the marriage to his daughter Margaret's best friend, Anne Preston McCormack.

But what of the product itself? This is described primarily in two chapters: chapter six, "Problems with the Nostrum," and chapter fifteen, "Changes Come to Bromo-Seltzer." The original formula included a stomach-settler (bicarbonate), a nervine agent (sodium bromide), and an analgesic/antipyretic (acetanilide). These last two ingredients could be dangerous in higher doses. Acetanilide inhibited the carrying of oxygen in the blood, and incidents of acetanilide poisoning were almost always revealed by patients exhibiting cyanosis. Chronic poisoning from bromide intoxication was also not uncommon. This basic formula could be marketed with little concern for efficacy or safety until the Pure Food and Drug Act passed on June 30, 1906. Now increasing scrutiny was brought to bear on products like Bromo-Seltzer. Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chair of the USDA Department of Chemistry; muckraking journalist Samuel Hopkins Adams; and Charles S. Williamson, chair of clinical medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago, all exposed the hazards of the Captain's nostrum. The struggle was long and hard, but by 1917 the Emerson Drug Company finally disclosed that the product contained 20 grains of acetanilide per ounce. What was *not* disclosed was that "each teaspoon represented about 3.7 grains of acetanilide. By taking three doses, a user could consume about 11 grains, a level many authorities considered dangerous" (p. 68). Blithely ignoring its dangers, the Emerson Drug Company touted Bromo-Seltzer as "a speedy and reliable remedy for nervous headache, neuralgia, brain fatigue, sleeplessness, over-strain work, depression, following alcoholic and other overuses, mental exhaustion, etc." (p. 68). What exactly "etcetera" encompassed was anybody's guess.

Additional pressure was brought to bear when the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act was passed in 1938. When FDA administrator Walter G. Campbell sent his agents out, now armed with the newly enacted FFDC Act, to remove medicines thought to be a

health hazard, Bromo-Seltzer was among them. The FDA did not fault the Emerson Drug Company for the ingredients of its product, only that it failed to inform its customers of potential risks associated with its use, especially those associated with acetanilide and bromides. Furthermore, FDA testing in 1939 disclosed wide variations in acetanilide and bromide potencies, “from a low of 4.519 grams to a high of 17.83 grams” (p. 162). Thus, no consumer could ascertain exactly how much of these risky chemicals they were ingesting with any dose.

Faced with possible litigation and continued negative publicity, the company agreed to make sure Bromo-Seltzer conformed to a reliable standard of 2½ grams of acetanilide and 7½ grams of bromide. To ensure uniformity of delivery, the powdered dosage form was eliminated in favor of tablets only.

By late in the twentieth century continued problems with charges of false advertising leveled by the Federal Trade Commission and increased competition from rivals such as Alka-Seltzer, Pepto-Bismol, and Tylenol saw Bromo-Seltzer’s sales fall from \$16 million per year down to a mere \$1.7 million in 1994. Ten years before, acetanilide had been removed, joining the bromides that had been eliminated in 1975. As Bromo-Seltzer’s fortunes continued to decline, in 2006 it finally fell into the hands of Essex, Connecticut’s Tower Labs. Today Bromo-Seltzer consists of aspirin, citric acid, and bicarbonate of soda. Luke describes the once famous medicine as “a faint shadow of its former self” (p. 165).

But to leave the story there would distort the major themes and flavor of this book. In fact, the vast majority of this biographical monograph is taken up with the comings and goings of the Emerson family, especially with the Captain as the dominating—and domineering—patriarch. Although my main interest was in the pharmaceutical aspects of the product that made Emerson rich and famous, much of Luke’s narrative centers on marriages, divorces (both “Ike” Emerson’s *and* his daughter Margaret’s), assorted affairs, travels to exotic lands, high-profile public events, and a general potpourri of parties and high living exploits of well-heeled swells enjoying themselves. Most disconcerting was Emerson’s passion for hunting a long list of exotic species now regarded as endangered, a dubious contribution to posterity. I left *Bromo-Seltzer King* feeling like I had just paged through a socialite’s scrapbook. The book’s gossipy style was tedious and at times annoying.

Nonetheless, for an academic librarian in the history of the health sciences, the book may be worth accessioning into the collection. After all, Bromo-Seltzer was certainly an outstanding representative of the patent medicine industry, and this is the most detailed history of the product and its producer. However, it is no substitute for more substantial treatments of the patent medicine industry found in definitive studies such as Milton Silverman's *Magic in a Bottle* (1941), Stewart H. Holbrook's *The Golden Age of Quackery* (1959), James Harvey Young's *The Toadstool Millionaires* (1961), and Joe Schwarcz's *The Fly in the Ointment* (2004).

### Michael A. Flannery

Professor emeritus, UAB Libraries  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Julian Barnes. *The Man in the Red Coat*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2020. 288 pages. \$26.95. ISBN: 978-0525658771**

Samuel Pozzi (1846-1918) was considered the father of French gynecology, and John Singer Sargent painted his portrait, "Dr. Pozzi at Home" (1881). It graces the cover of this well-written and fascinating work by the prolific and award-winning writer Julian Barnes. One might think that it is actually a biography of Pozzi, to whom, Barnes states, he was drawn, and "became curious about his life and work." (p. 207). But this book is vastly more than one man's biography. It's a witty uncovering of friendships and intimate relationships in Belle Époque Paris, and it is aimed at the layperson who is already somewhat familiar with that period. The gossipy goings-on of members of Pozzi's circle, such as writers Robert Montesquiou and Marcel Proust, do not have a place in this book review, nor does Pozzi's affair with his patient Sarah Bernhardt. (*The Diva and Doctor God: Letters from Sarah Bernhardt to Doctor Samuel Pozzi*, by Caroline De Costa and Francesca Miller (2010), recounts her side of their romance.) Only one full-length biography of Pozzi appears to exist, and it remains untranslated into English: *Samuel Pozzi, Chirurgen et Ami des Femmes* by Claude Vanderpooten (1992).

Samuel Pozzi was born in 1846 in the Dordogne region of France into a well-to-do family of Italian heritage and arrived in Paris in 1864 to study medicine. Very well-liked throughout his life, he was known as "charming, ambitious, [and] a star student" (p. 23) and specialized in abdominal problems in both men and women. In 1876 he attended a British Medical Association meeting in Edinburgh, where he met and studied with Joseph

Lister (1827-1912). Pozzi was impressed by Lister and began to implement the antiseptic techniques that he'd learned.

Surgeon/neurologist Paul Broca (1824-1880) was Pozzi's mentor, and in 1883 Pozzi became Head of Surgery at the Lourcine-Pascal Hospital (after 1893, known as the Broca Hospital). Pozzi worked there for 35 years, dealing with many patients who were suffering from venereal disease. Based in part on what he'd seen visiting European and North American hospitals (among which was the Mayo Clinic), he began to give lectures on gynecology, expanded the hospital to include an operating room, a library, and a "chloroform room" (p. 157), and made the hospital a must-see for visiting physicians. He maintained a very active private practice on the weekends. IndexCat discloses that he wrote over 250 articles, case reports, and encyclopedia entries in French publications. Subject headings for his works range from Disinfectants (Chemical) to Fractures (Deformity after), to Goitre (Complications and sequelae of) to Hermaphrodites, to Ovariectomy (Double) to Trephining. His vast scientific interests are hinted at by his 1910 tour of hospitals in South America, where he "saw venom being extracted from snakes, and a mental asylum near Buenos Aires." (p. 222). He was greatly impressed by this institution, which was based on the Scottish "Open Door" model, where psychiatric patients were treated kindly and whose therapy included manual or agricultural labor.

Pozzi's two-volume textbook on gynecology was translated into English as *A Treatise on Gynaecology, Clinical and Operative* (1892-1893), went into four editions in French, two in English, was translated into multiple languages, and even into the 1930s was considered the standard gynecology textbook in French. The syndrome named for Pozzi was defined in *Eponymous Syndromes: MEDLARS Indexing Instructions* (1970) as a combination of the subject headings of endometritis, leukorrhea, and backache. (p. 93).

Tragically, Pozzi was murdered in his hospital office on June 13th, 1918, by a gun-wielding patient who committed suicide shortly thereafter. Although Pozzi had operated on the patient in 1915 for scrotal varicose veins, he afterwards refused to carry out any more surgical procedures much to the patient's anger. The murderer's complaints were detailed in a note, stating that he'd planned to kill Pozzi "as a warning to doctors who do not respect the wishes of their patients." (p. 260)

Barnes has chosen to quote from multiple sources, yet nowhere is there any indication of what those sources are: no references, no footnotes, no bibliography, and no index. There's no mention of who made the translations into English. To cite just one example,

Barnes quotes a pseudonymous writer named "Sparklett" who wrote about Pozzi in 1907 for the periodical *L'Echo*: "Surgeons are the masters of the universe in our time." (p. 91). It must be noted that *The Man in the Red Coat* is a beautiful book, printed on glossy paper, and filled with almost 100 images, including those of noted individuals in a wide variety of professions whose names are often unrecognizable today. Institutions with strong history of gynecology or history of sexuality collections may want to consider purchasing. It is also available electronically (not seen).

**Martha E. Stone**

Retired

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