

ALHHS 2008

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

Rochester, New York

Wednesday, April 9 – Thursday, April 10, 2008

Hyatt Regency Rochester

125 East Main Street

Rochester NY 14604

585.546.1234 voice

585.546.6777 fax

<http://rochester.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/index.jsp>

Wednesday, April 9

- 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. **Steering Committee meeting** (*Hyatt Wilmore Room*)
- 6:30 p.m. Meet in the lobby of the Hyatt Regency prior to boarding bus to go to the **Country Club of Rochester** (2935 East Avenue) for dinner
- 7:00 – 7:45 p.m. **Open Bar** (*Living Room, Country Club of Rochester*)
- 7:45 – 9:30 p.m. **Dinner** (*Library, Country Club of Rochester*)
- 9:30 p.m. Bus returns to the Hyatt Regency

Thursday, April 10

- 8:00 – 8:45 a.m. **Continental Breakfast and Registration** (*Hyatt Grand Ballroom ABC*)
- 8:45 – 9:00 a.m. **Welcome & Introductions:** Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, ALHHS President
- 9:00 – 11:45 a.m. ALHHS Program

Blame it on the History Channel: Sharing Our Resources with Varied Audiences

9:00-9:25 a.m.

"ars sine scientia nihil est"

Cynthia Kahn

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, George Washington University; mlbcrk@gwumc.edu

The Latin phrase "ars sine scientia nihil est" translates to "art without knowledge is nothing". The phrase is attributed to Jean Mignot, a 14th Century French Architect. Mignot believed theory and practice could

not be separated. To wit, the art ("ars") of any profession-whether it be architecture or medicine-cannot be practiced without basing decisions on science ("scientia"). In short, learning the art of medicine in conjunction with the history of medicine creates something special - a true understanding of the profession and its knowledge base. This paper will explore the latest endeavors at the George Washington University to bring history of medicine to students and faculty in the medicine, public health and history fields. The history of medicine curriculum at George Washington University has expanded dramatically in 2007. The university has hired a group of new faculty members with backgrounds in this discipline to buttress existing history of medicine activities, including a student interest group, and the overall curriculum. In Fall 2007, a core group was invited to discuss future activities, such as the growth of the medical historical collection at GW, the creation of a web presence for medical history, the establishment of field trips to historical Washington venues for medical students, the formation of a public lecture series and courses as well as the exploration of research directions and interests. New faculty are offering history of medicine courses in several disciplines--medicine, public health and history. Therefore, the science of the profession is being disseminated throughout the university, among the faculty and students, and also in the library collections.

9:25-9:50 a.m.

Reaching Out to the Inside: Bringing History to Employees

Barbara J. Niss

Gustave L. and Janet W. Levy Library, Mount Sinai Medical Center; barbara.niss@mssm.edu

The Mount Sinai Archives serves the community of The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York. In-house users constitute by far the largest component of patrons. Reaching out to Mount Sinai faculty and staff serves to:

- heighten the visibility of the Archives to senior leadership and shows concrete return for their continuing investment in the Archives;
- educate employees about our history, hopefully making them feel more connected to the institution;
- make potential users aware of the Archives and its collections.

The Archives has developed an active collaboration with our internal Department of Training and Education. They are the division of Human Resources that is responsible for new employee orientation, on-going education programs, and employee recognition events. They also facilitate the institution-wide performance improvement initiative called the BEST initiative: Building Excellence for Success Together.

I will speak about the various ways in which the Archives supports the Training Department and show images and video from various events. In particular, working with Training and Education on the annual employee recognition events has increased the visibility of the Archives and has gotten the Archivist out of the stacks and into the Medical Center community. Over the past four years of working with this program, historical images and information have been brought to literally thousands of Mount Sinai employees as they celebrate milestone anniversaries at the institution ranging from 10 to 50 years of employment. Also, the Archives has provided information for a scavenger hunt that was used during orientation to help familiarize new employees with the large campus, as well as Mount Sinai 'fun facts' for another orientation program. These activities have in turn led to a number of reference questions as people now know who to ask.

9:50-10:15 a.m.

Creating a Hub: The Scholarship Outreach Efforts of the OSU Medical Heritage Center

Judith A. Weiner

Medical Heritage Center, The Ohio State University; judith.wiener@osumc.edu

The Ohio State University Medical Heritage Center was founded in 1997 with the mission to promote, preserve, and collect the rich health sciences history of central Ohio. Under the mission of promoting this heritage, the center has identified and designed programs to cultivate scholarship efforts among a wide variety of once-scattered constituencies.

In this proposed presentation, the Head Curator of The Ohio State University Medical Heritage Center will discuss the efforts of the institution to bring together individuals engaged or interested in the history of the health sciences scholarship with the goals of increasing collection awareness and use, creating center-sponsored publications, and making the center an established area hub for health sciences history information and activity. Reaching a wide variety of individuals such as academics, writers, amateur historians, students, and history interest groups, these programs are meeting and even far exceeding the expectations of their conveners. This presentation will specifically focus on the center's scholar-in-residence and writing workshop/seminar programs.

10:15-10:30 a.m.

BREAK

10:30-10:50 a.m.

"Treasures of the Library:" An Outreach Model that Worked

Susan Wheeler

Cushing/Whitney Medical Library, Yale University; susan.wheeler@yale.edu

"Treasures of the Library" sessions are a collaboration between the Cushing/Whitney Medical Library and the Humanities in Medicine Program at the Yale School of Medicine. Designed to introduce medical and nursing students to the Library's rich historical collections, including books, prints and drawings, manuscripts, and instruments, the sessions present thematic selections for "hands on" examination by students joined by invited faculty. Each presentation includes a guided introduction to the materials followed by discussion. Adhering to set procedures, the sessions' model has become a successful outreach for the historical collections and has expanded with a series of "Behind the Scenes" sessions, collaboration with a Liaison librarian for sessions with clinical departments, and planned sessions with alumni and the Beaumont Medical Club, the local history of medicine society. Most recently, "Behind the Scenes in the Print Collection" led to a collaborative exhibit with students for AIDS day. The "treasures" model was used also for the Yale-New Haven Teacher's Institute, a summer program for local public school teachers. The paper will focus on the program's evolution, concentration on target audience, and aspects of session design and content which seem to have contributed to its success.

10:50-11:10 a.m.

Wellcome Library 'Insights' Visits

Julianne Simpson

Wellcome Library, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine; j.simpson@wellcome.ac.uk

'Insights' themed visits are offered to members of the public as part of the Wellcome Collection events programme. The initial themes developed in 2007 are Sir Henry Wellcome: his life and work, The Body in History, Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism, Behind the Scenes: the Preservation and Conservation studio, Around the world in one hundred years: Travels and tourism in the 19th century and Healing Herbs. New themes to be added in 2008 include Francis Crick, Madness and Medical London.

The aim is to offer an intellectually accessible way into the Library, using themes which cut across the various collections and encompassing subjects which visitors might not expect to be reflected in our holdings.

In this way we hope to:

- raise awareness of the collections and their diversity;
- provide an opportunity for visitors to experience 'real' historical material;
- potentially spark a new interest for visitors in, for example, the history of medicine, social history, art techniques, conservation etc;
- inspire visitors to value the Library and collections and act as advocates – but not necessarily register as Readers.

11:10-11:20 a.m. Combined Discussion of Wheeler and Simpson papers

11:20-11:45 a.m.

Search, Sort and Zoom! Improved Access for Images from the History of Medicine

Laura Hartman

History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine; laurah@mail.nlm.nih.gov

The History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) has selected a new public interface for its *Images from the History of Medicine* (IHM) database and would welcome the opportunity to demonstrate its new features to the members of ALHHS. The new IHM is expected to debut in March 2008. All 69,000+ records in the current IHM database are presently being converted to Luna's Insight software, which will provide much greater functionality for searching and display of images. In the current IHM database, researchers can only search for images via keyword, but in the new database, they will also be able to search every field in the cataloging record using actual record text selected via drop down windows. Retrieval sets will show thumbnail images, which may be easily sorted by any field in the cataloging record at the user's request. Thumbnail images may be enlarged and viewed through a zoom browser tool that enables the viewer to see the tiniest image details, including picture captions. All these new features will greatly enhance image research in the history of medicine.

11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Business Meeting and Box Lunch**

1:00 p.m. Meet in the lobby of the Hyatt Regency prior to boarding bus

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Tour of the International Museum of Photography, George Eastman House**
(900 East Avenue; <http://www.eastmanhouse.org/>)

We will divide into two groups that will alternate between a 50-minute docent-led tour of the Eastman House and a 50-minute tour of the Photo Collection with David Wooters, Archivist

3:00 p.m. Bus returns to the Hyatt Regency