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# WATERMARK

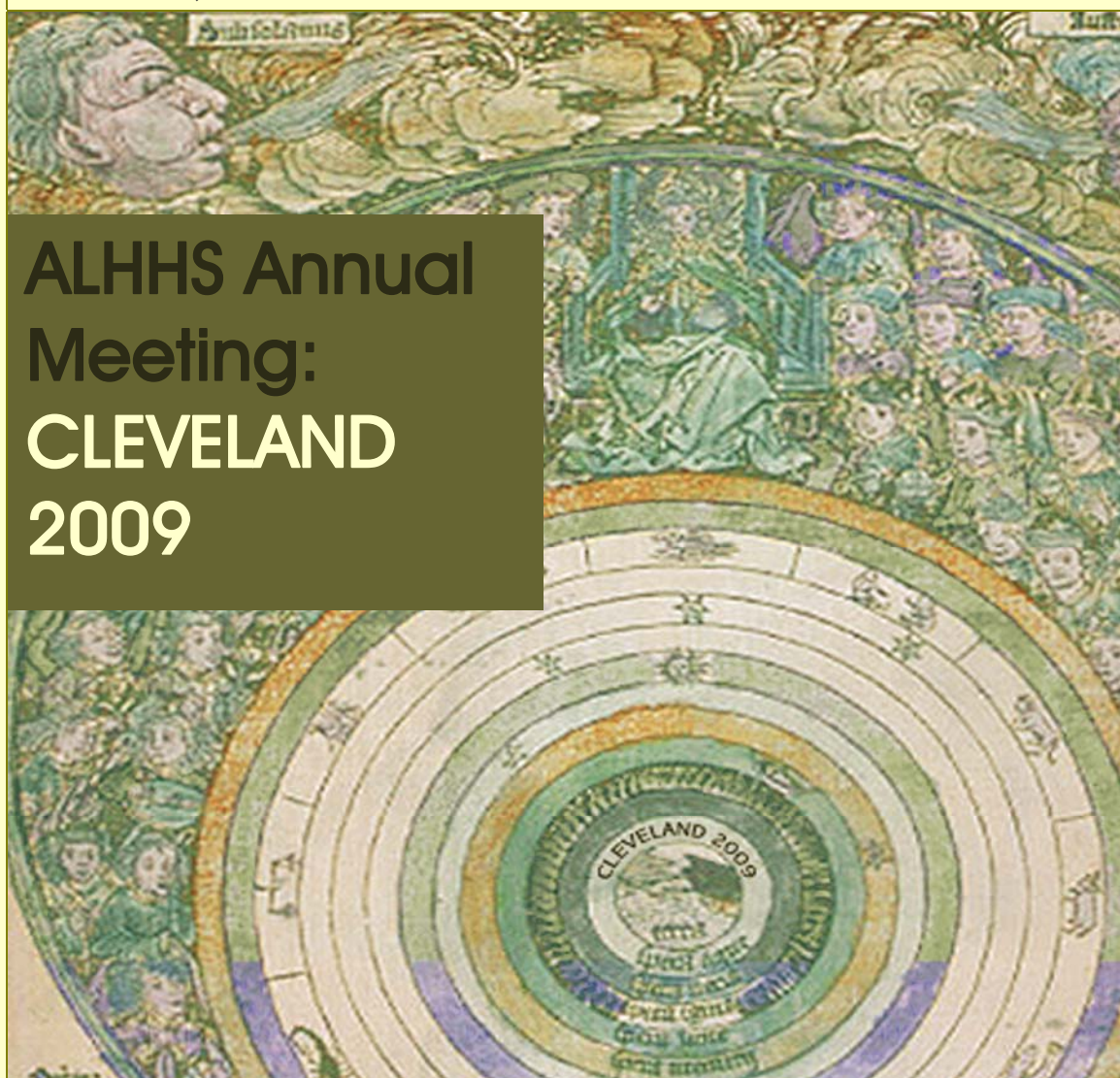
Newsletter of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences

Volume XXXII,

Number 1

Winter 2008-2009

**ALHHS Annual  
Meeting:  
CLEVELAND  
2009**



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### Submissions for the Watermark:

The Watermark encourages submissions of news and stories about events, collections, catalogues, people, awards, grants, publications, and anything else of professional interest to the members of ALHHS.

Please submit your contributions in a timely way to Chris Lyons, as e-mail attachments. Visuals should be submitted as jpegs with a resolution of 100 dpi if possible. Copyright clearance for content and visuals are the responsibility of the author.

**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

Well, I swore I would never do it! I resisted blandishments, threats and wheelbarrows full of money. I am too busy, I've been neglecting my family, I have no time for *The Watermark* – besides, we do have around 200 members. So why I am acting editor and why am I sitting here on a Sunday in front of my computer? Because I love our organization and being involved in it. When I started working at the Osler Library of the History of Medicine four

years ago I knew nothing about the history of medicine and very little about archives and rare books librarianship. I joined ALHHS soon afterwards, and attended my first conference in Halifax in 2006. This was the beginning of a stimulating and informative relationship with a number of experienced, interesting and kind people who have been a great inspiration and a wonderful source of good ideas. The more involved I've been, the greater I've felt the returns to be. Attending the annual meeting in Cleveland this April is one way to experience this, so do try to come. It'd be great to see you and we'll miss you if you're not there. The *Watermark's* cover is adapted from the illustration of the geocentric solar system in the Osler Library's 1493 *Nuremberg Chronicle*.

I would like to thank Eric Luft for his four years as editor of *The Watermark*; I hope you are enjoying your retirement. I am very grateful that Jennifer Walton also agreed to help out as co-editor and that Stephen Greenberg continues to edit the book review section. There are some other changes to note; perhaps the biggest is the fact that we've gone online. I am delighted about this for a number of reasons, not least of which is the environmental benefit of not using paper to print and mail it, which also saves us considerable time and money. The new medium also means that we've been able to adapt the look and add some operational features, such as using colour, hyperlinking the table of contents to each item and, thanks to a suggestion of one of our advertisers, hyperlinking ads to dealer websites. The single column format is easier to read online. We've made sure, though, that it prints out well for those who prefer to read a hard copy, and paper copies will be sent out to members without computers.

In terms of content, I am pleased to introduce a new feature where one of our members' institutions is profiled. In this issue it is The Center for the History of Family Medicine in



Leawood, Kansas. I must admit that I knew nothing of this organisation and its fascinating mandate. I invite you to consider writing a piece on your “shop,” which is a great way to inform your colleagues and, by extension, reach more users. There are also articles and notices from a number of people; in fact, we received much more than we could include in this already packed issue. I like publishing original material and want to make space for it by limiting notices seen on listservs and elsewhere. It is my hope that *The Watermark* continues to serve the wonderful world of the ALHHS, so please send in articles on your work, collections and professional issues and give us any feedback you have. As we say in Quebec, *bonne lecture!*

**Chris Lyons**

Assistant History of Medicine Librarian  
Osler Library of the History of Medicine  
McGill University  
Montreal, Canada

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT*****Cleveland Rocks!***

And it will rock even more when ALHHS members descend upon it. But seriously folks, I hope that many of you will join us for the annual meeting. As you'll see from Jennifer and Pat's articles, there are some fabulous things planned. Jennifer Nieves has arranged some lovely tours for us, as well as our annual dinner at one of Cleveland's hot spots. Patricia Gallagher and the Program Committee have put together a stimulating program. This year's meeting will feature programming in both the morning and afternoon, giving us all more bang for our conference-going buck. Many thanks to Jennifer and Pat for all of their hard work in arranging a meeting that's sure to rock our professional world.

**Ch-ch-changes**

With this issue of the *Watermark*, we debut a new editor and assistant editor. Thank you to Chris Lyons and Jennifer Walton for taking this on, and to Stephen Greenberg for

continuing as book review editor. I'm confident that *the Watermark* is in good hands. Also, this is the first issue of the Watermark to be delivered electronically rather than via snail mail. We have moved into the 21st century at last.

### Greatest hits

While it's doubtful that any of us will be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame this year, ALHHS does recognize outstanding members and colleagues with awards. Please consider nominating one of your colleagues for the Lisabeth M. Holloway award, the ALHHS Curatorship award, or the ALHHS Recognition of Merit. Nomination criteria are on the ALHHS website <http://unitproj.library.ucla.edu/biomed/his/alhhs/>. If there's someone you'd like ALHHS to honor, contact Christine Ruggere, chair of the Awards Committee, at [ruggere@jhmi.edu](mailto:ruggere@jhmi.edu). Many thanks to Christine for continuing as chair. I hope we'll be giving out at least one award in Cleveland.

I'll end with a blanket "thank you" to all of the ALHHS officers, committee chairs, and other volunteers that keep this organization going throughout the years. And thanks to you, the members, for your participation.

See y'all in Cleveland!

#### Lisa A. Mix

Manager of Archives & Special Collections  
Library and Center for Knowledge Management  
University of California, San Francisco

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## ALHHS ANNUAL MEETING



We welcome you back to Cleveland! Hard to believe it has been 17 years since the ALHHS met in the Best Location in the Nation. We look forward to hosting the 2009 meeting and hope for the same wonderful weather we had in 1991.

The conference hotel is the Cleveland Clinic InterContinental Hotel and Conference Center, located in the heart of University Circle, Cleveland's cultural center.

This one square mile area is home to The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Botanical Gardens, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland Orchestra, Western Reserve Historical Society, Museum of Contemporary Art and, of course, the Dittrick Medical History Center. There are numerous dining experiences to be had as well. The official website of the Convention and Visitors Bureau of Greater Cleveland can be accessed at the following address: [www.positivelycleveland.com](http://www.positivelycleveland.com). Here you will find information about everything CLEVELAND!

As a preamble to the meeting, the ALHHS will be invited to visit the rare book collection at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens on Wednesday, April 22nd. Later that evening members will meet at Nighttown for dinner, Cleveland style, with a little Irish flair.

The annual meeting of the ALHHS will be held on Thursday, April 23rd in the Ford Auditorium at the Allen Memorial Medical Library. The ALHHS program promises to be enlightening with several morning sessions, a luncheon with members of the Medical Museums Association in the Cushing Reading Room, followed by a panel of local museum professionals sharing their experiences with unusual formats in libraries and archives. This year's featured speaker is Howard Kramer, Director of Curatorial Affairs, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, who will discuss collections issues and solutions.

As soon as the hotel reservation portion of the AAHM website is up and running, ALHHS members will receive an announcement. You will be able to access the reservation page by creating an account, bypass the AAHM meeting registration page (if you don't plan on attending the AAHM meeting) and go straight to the housing reservation page.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about meeting arrangements. If I can't answer off the top of my head I will certainly do what I can to find the answer.

Hope to see you in April.

**Jennifer K. Nieves**, ALHHS LAC Chair  
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## CLEVELAND 2009: THE ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

On behalf of the Programming and Local Arrangements Committees, you are cordially invited to attend this year's Annual Meeting of Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences. The meeting is being held in Cleveland Ohio, and we promise you an exciting full-day and ½ of programming and tours. My thanks to my committee: Stephen Greenberg, Suzanne Porter and Jeff Wehmeyer, as well as to Local Arrangements liaison extraordinaire Jennifer Nieves. Without their hard work, this program would not have come together!

Watch your mail and email for your registration information – I look forward to seeing you in Cleveland.

**Patricia Gallagher**

Chair ALHHS Programming Committee 2009

### Wednesday, 22 April 2009

1:45 pm	Meet in Hotel Lobby for buses to Tour.
2:00 - 3:30 pm	Tour of Cleveland Botanical Garden Rare Book Collection and Glass House
4:00 - 6:00 pm	Steering Committee Meeting, Room 201, Intercontinental Hotel.
6:15 pm	Meet in the Lobby of the Intercontinental Hotel for buses to Nighttown
6:30 pm	Dinner at Nighttown <a href="http://www.nighttowncleveland.com/">http://www.nighttowncleveland.com/</a>

### Thursday, 23 April 2009

8:30 am	Meet in hotel lobby to catch bus
8:45 - 9:45 am	Breakfast and Registration (Powell Rm., Allen Medical Library)



### Thursday, 23 April 2009

9:45 -10:00 am	Welcome from the President (Ford Auditorium, Allen Medical Library)
10:00 -11:45 am	<p>Mini Présentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holly Herro, History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine – New Approaches to Conservation at NLM</li> <li>• Chris Lyons, McGill University – Introduction to a Searchable Database of William Osler Photographs</li> <li>• Michael North, History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine – A Random Sample Survey on NLM's Americana Collection Dating from 1801-1860</li> <li>• Ed Morman, National Federation of the Blind Jernigan Institute – In the Land of the Blind: Building a Major Research Collection</li> <li>• Jodi Koste, Archivist, Virginia Commonwealth University - Medical Instrument Collection Digitized</li> <li>• Paul Theerman, Head, Images and Archives, History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine – The New IHM: The National Library of Medicine's New OPAC of Images from the History of Medicine</li> <li>• Susan Rishworth, Archivist, American College of Surgeons – New Digital Collection</li> </ul>
Noon - 1:00 pm	Business Meeting
1:00 - 2:00 pm	Lunch (Powell Rm., Allen Medical Library)
2:00 - 3:15 pm	<p>Keynote Speaker (Ford Auditorium, Allen Medical Library)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Howard Kramer, Director of Curatorial Affairs, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum - Collection Issues and Solutions</li> </ul>
3:15 - 4:30 pm	<p>Roundtable on Unusual Formats in Libraries and Archives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathleen Britton, Director/Curator of Collections &amp; Education. Archives Consortium, Baker-Cederberg Museum and Archives, on Fabric Collections</li> <li>• Judith Wiener, Head Curator, Medical Heritage Center, Ohio State University, on Realia</li> <li>• Dawne Howard Lucas, Head, Technical Services, Duke University Medical Center Archives, on Media and Photographs</li> </ul>
4:30 - 4:35 pm	Meeting Adjourns.
4:45 pm	Meet in library lobby to catch bus to hotel

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## FEATURE ARTICLES

### *Thinking Outside the Box: Using Artifacts at the University of Alabama at Birmingham*

The UAB Archives is the official repository for the University of Alabama at Birmingham. We collect university records, campus publications, and manuscript collections related to the various entities within the university. We collect artifacts, ephemera, and other three-dimensional items associated with UAB and its various schools, departments, and organizations. Our acquisition policy also covers materials that document the history of the health sciences, so this repository contains manuscripts of health-care professionals from around the state and the southeast.

In the various collections within the UAB Archives we have a wide range of items, all those items typically found in repositories elsewhere, letters, diaries, memos, photographs, videotape and film, etc. For the most part, medical instruments and equipment are not retained as these items are housed in the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences. Otherwise, if the item has the name or logo from UAB or one of its entities or if an item was originally contained within one of our manuscript collections, it may be retained – and, of course, used!

We have automobile bumper stickers, coffee mugs and plastic cups, golf balls with the university logo, condom packages and keychain cases to carry said condoms (both of which were issued by the public health school), key fobs, and a package of chewing gum with the dental school logo that was used during a research study on caries in the 1950s. There are tee-shirts, sun visors, commemorative coins, buttons and pins, pencils and pens, and a plastic container, still sealed, containing barbecue spices (“Blaze’s Blends: Blazer Barbecue Rub”) used as a fundraiser for the nutrition department – our UAB mascot is a fire-breathing dragon named Blaze and, of course, barbecue is ubiquitous in the South!

We have an ivory fan used in the 1930s by actress Lillian Gish, a cosmetic case engraved with the monogram of actress Ethel Barrymore Colt, and a jeweled dagger, albeit a plastic one, used by Dame Judith Anderson in a production of Macbeth. These last three items, you may wonder, are in the UAB Archives because they were some of

the many artifacts collected by the founding director of the university's theatre program and were displayed in the "museum" he maintained in his theatre.

All of these items are safely stored on shelves in our storage room, mostly in acid-free boxes and, where applicable, in acid-free folders, envelopes or other enclosures, some carefully wrapped in acid free tissue. They rest peacefully and quietly in their boxes. But what good is it to collect, preserve, and pay for these items – as we pay for supplies to house them, for staff time to organize and track them, and for the shelf space to store them – if they are never to be used again, never to be seen, never to emerge from that box? Here at the UAB Archives, I have a somewhat tongue-in-cheek motto that "if we have it, we use it." This ensures that our artifacts, ephemera, and other items are used in library displays and during classroom instruction.



For several years, my assistant, Jennifer Beck, and I have mounted in the Lister Hill Library an annual showing of "unexpected" or "unusual" items found in the archive collections. In addition to the items mentioned above, in these annual displays we have used an engraved pewter beer mug presented to Dr. Tinsley R. Harrison by his last group of medical residents; a belt from a Dictaphone recording of one of our early faculty

members; a lock of hair of Assistant Surgeon-General Dr. Henry Rose Carter; a chunk of plaster that fell from the wall of the President's Mansion during the tenure of UAB's second president; plastic poisonous weeds used in the 1950s in the hospital's three-year diploma school; a basketball jersey worn by a member of UAB's first NCAA-level team; and the medal and ribbon of the Imperial Order of St. Stanislaus, one of four honorary knighthoods – we have all four – presented by the Tsar of Russia to an Alabama physician for the doctor's service to the Russian military during the Crimean War. Putting together this display has become one of our favorite activities. Jennifer and I both enjoy the hunt and the process of selecting which unusual or – quite frankly – odd item goes along side which other unusual item.

During most academic terms, members of the faculty from the Department of History bring students to UAB Historical Collections for class instruction. These sessions include a discussion of what an archive is, what archivists do, and what is to be expected when arriving at a repository to conduct research. Documents, photographs,

publications, and artifacts and ephemera are all displayed, and then I describe them in a context appropriate to the specific history class. These sessions introduce the repository to the students and the “informed display” of items gives the students an idea of what they might expect to find in our repository. During these classes, I typically discuss the archival material in detail, describing what collection the item is found within, who the creator of that collection was and their significance to the campus or the community, and what paper topics might be drawn from the collection.



For artifacts the discussion is similar, although most items are fairly self explanatory. The coffee mug branded with an academic school and the megaphone with the university’s sports logo are both well-known items that need little description. That honorary knighthood from the Russian Tsar, the ink pen used by President Harry S. Truman in a 1949 bill signing ceremony, the 1980s-era eight-inch computer disk (the “floppy” disk), or the “CSA” button from the uniform of a Confederate physician do require a bit more explanation!

The artifacts housed at UAB are used on a regular basis, in displays in the library and in discussions with various student classes. Some are even contained in images posted on the repository’s website in snapshots of previous displays.

The photographs accompanying this article were taken during classes conducted this academic year. And, yes, there is a School of Public Health branded condom package being shown to history students! Whoever said class instruction had to be staid and boring?

**Tim L. Pennycuff,**  
Assistant Professor and University Archivist  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

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## *The Devil (and the Doodles) is in the Details*

Michael North from the National Library of Medicine recently sent an e-mail to a few of our members based on his finding a title from our collection listed in WorldCat. He wrote

on behalf of our international colleague, Guy Cobolet from the Bibliothèque InterUniversitaire de Médecine. Guy is performing a survey of copies of René Chartier's edition of Hippocrates' Complete Works, published in Paris from 1638 to 1689. Michael attached Guy's original e-mail, the survey, and some images from the book. Michael asked that if we had the time, to please see if someone at our institution with some "fairly sophisticated bibliographical knowledge" could complete the survey over the next week or two.

I was smitten with the thought of doing this project during the busy end of a semester. How difficult could it be? How long could it possibly take? Like most of you I wear multiple hats; but surely a reference question from my peers trumped any administrative, instruction, collection, or research work that needed my attention. Clearly, with title of Curator, I also engendered the "fairly sophisticated bibliographical knowledge," needed to perform this task. [My self-assurance was later tested by the fact that I missed three of the details that Guy needed.] I went in the Vault and retrieved call number WZ 250 H667hi 1679. René Chartier's 13 volumes cover nearly two and half linear feet of shelving. Each volume is oversized, between 3 to 4 inches thick, 11 inches wide by 17 inches tall and heavy.



Guy's interest was in comparing each Tomus with various differing components he has found in all the volumes he has studied. I looked at the frontispiece, the title, the author's listing, the illustration on the title page, the date of publication, the publisher, the printer, the plates and a few disparate details-for each volume. Working my way through his survey, I took each Tomus off the cart, quickly learning that, although

heavy and needing proper desk space to open and support each volume separately, if I had tried to answer all 12 questions per volume at once, instead of one question per each volume, it would've been really confusing trying to keep track of the details. Why? Because our collection was a hodgepodge of all the four types of examples that Guy has located. We had representations of all the different titles, illustrations, publishers, corrected publishing dates, etc., that his survey has unearthed. Within the realm of the survey, even though we had representations of all the vagaries of the publication, we didn't have anything novel from Guy's findings. However, we did have something that Guy could not have seen in any of the other collections.



Our collection's provenance included a stint at the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh, and was part of the legendary Sotheby's auction that our intrepid past director, Helen Crawford, had attended in 1969. On the title page of our Tomus 1 are portraits of Hippocrates on the left and Galen on the right (as in many of Guy's examples). But our heroes' visages have been enhanced with eyebrows, moustaches, pipes, and Groucho Marx-like noses. One could speculate that the doodles were done in the mid 1960s by some bored medical student. It is much more romantic to consider that some bored late 18th or early 19th century medical student, fountain pen in hand, tired of reading about those "old guys, Hippocrates and Galen" saw the need to add a bit of graphic whimsy to the frontispiece. They could not have anticipated that nearly two hundred years later a librarian in Madison, Wisconsin, would be reporting this occurrence to a librarian in Paris, France. Guy was tickled with the find and for me it affirmed what we all generally know. Human nature, being what it is, and books being what they are - a record (recorder) of things both old and modern - that we had ourselves a treasure; a tiny artifact of errant behavior even a curator with "fairly sophisticated bibliographic knowledge" could immediately relate to.

**Micaela Sullivan-Fowler**

Curator and Assistant Director  
Rare Books and Special Collections,  
Ebling Library for the Health Sciences  
University of Wisconsin at Madison

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## PROFILE: THE CENTER FOR THE HISTORY OF FAMILY MEDICINE

The CHFM is an historical research center which is part of the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation (AAFP/F), a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization located in Leawood, Kansas. The Center serves as the primary repository of information and resources on the history and evolution of general practice, family practice, the discipline of family medicine and the family medicine organizations within the United States. Its mission is to document, organize and preserve organizational records, personal papers, books and artifacts in all formats and disseminate information about them in both printed and electronic form. It also serves as an informational link to all other family medicine organizations and to all who are interested in the history of the specialty.

The Center was originally established in 1989 as the archives for the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), and subsequently became known as “The Archives for Family Practice.” In 2004, the Archives was renamed the Center for the History of Family Medicine to reflect its gradual evolution into the principal resource center for the collection, conservation, exhibition and study of materials relating to the history of the specialty of family medicine, including family practice and general practice. Besides the Academy and the Foundation, other family medicine organizations that contribute by placing their records into the Center’s holdings, donating to its endowment and appointing representatives to its advisory board include the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM); the Association of Departments of Family Medicine (ADFM); the Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors (AFMRD); the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG); and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM).

Over the years, the Center’s collections have also evolved, growing into three separate and distinct areas:



Dr. J. Jerome Wildgen [AAFP President, 1971-1972] with young patient, circa 1970, from CHFM photograph collections

1. An archives, which serves as both the official repository for the historical records of the seven family medicine organizations, and as a repository for manuscript collections of prominent family physicians and family medicine educators and staff;
2. An historical research library containing books written by and about family physicians and family medicine, as well as holding extensive reference files on the specialty;
3. A museum, which features a collection of artifacts relating to the specialty, and which produces permanent, temporary and special exhibits for display.

As an interdisciplinary study center, the CHFM actively documents, collects, organizes, preserves and exhibits organizational records, personal papers, books, artifacts and other materials in all formats relating to the history of general practice, family practice and family medicine in America. The Center’s programs include an active acquisitions and oral history program in which personal and professional papers and oral histories

are collected from prominent leaders in the specialty, and a traveling exhibit program. Reference services are also provided.



The Center for the History of Family Medicine is presently the only institution dedicated exclusively to preserving and sharing the history of family medicine in the United States. It serves to document all aspects of the profession in all of its spheres, including education, leadership development, advocacy, and in the continuing care of patients from birth to death. The tagline

of the Center's new logo is "Claim Your Heritage." Don Ivey, the manager of the Center, explained that this statement is not just a tagline, but is a call to action to family physicians to honor their role as the traditional champions of healthcare throughout our nation's history. "We want to remind family physicians of the proud legacy and heritage of their specialty," Ivey said. "Throughout every era of our nation's history, general practitioners and family physicians have been on the front lines of the American healthcare system. These were the people who helped to found our nation, and have served with honor in every major conflict this country has been involved in. They have been there to heal the sick and help the hurting, stopping epidemics, curing diseases and treating Americans—of all ages and from all walks of life, whether young or old, rich or poor—from birth until death. GPs and FPs have also been in the forefront of our nation's leadership. Some were signers of both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, and have served as governors, cabinet members, congressmen—even a U.S. surgeon general—and the list goes on and on. It's time for both the specialty and our nation to recognize this, and for the specialty of family medicine to claim its rightful place in American history."

The CHFM is located at the national headquarters of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) in Leawood, Kansas and is part of the AAFP Foundation (AAFP/F). For more information on the Center, contact us at 1-800-274-2237 (ext. 4420 or 4422), fax (913) 906-6095, via email at [chfm@aafp.org](mailto:chfm@aafp.org) or visit us on the web at [www.aafpfoundation.org/online/foundation/home/programs/center-history.html](http://www.aafpfoundation.org/online/foundation/home/programs/center-history.html)

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## COLLECTIONS

### *Maternity Center Association Records Open at the Columbia University Health Sciences Library*

Archives & Special Collections at Columbia University's Health Sciences Library is pleased to announce that one of its significant collections are now open to researchers; the records of the Maternity Center Association of New York (MCA). Known since 2005 as Childbirth Connection, the MCA was founded in 1918 and has been among the nation's leading advocates for better pre-natal and maternity care. It was a pioneer in the establishment of prenatal clinics; founded the nation's first nurse-midwifery school; led innovative publicity campaigns to reduce maternal and infant mortality; and founded the nation's first urban free-standing birth center. Today, it continues to promote safe, effective, and satisfying maternity care for all women and their families through research, education, and advocacy.

The records date from 1907 to 1997 and are 97 cubic feet in size. Included are: annual reports; board and committee minutes; administrative correspondence; educational materials; newspaper and magazine clippings; scrapbooks; publications; midwifery school and childbearing center records; fundraising materials; and film. The records are a rich resource for research in the history of medicine, nursing, women, childbirth and the family. The on-line finding aid can be found at:

<http://library.cpmc.columbia.edu/hsl/archives/findingaids/maternity.html>

For more information contact Archives & Special Collections at

[hsl-archives@columbia.edu](mailto:hsl-archives@columbia.edu)

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### *New Acquisitions at the Columbia University Health Sciences Library*

Archives & Special Collections at Columbia University's Health Sciences Library is pleased to announce the acquisition of two significant collections.

## **1. Visiting Nurse Service of New York Records**

The Visiting Nurse Service of New York (VNSNY) has selected the Health Sciences Library's Archives & Special Collections to be the repository for its archives. Included in the over 80 cubic feet of records are correspondence, Board and committee minutes, directors' records, promotional materials, film, recordings, and artifacts, dating from 1889 into the 1990s. Of particular interest is a large collection of photographs dating from c.1900 to the 1990s documenting every aspect of the work of the VNSNY

Founded in 1893 by Lillian Wald and Mary Brewster as the Henry Street Visiting Nurse Service, the VNSNY became the model for visiting nursing in the United States and has been a major influence on public health in this country. Starting with two nurses in the basement of a Lower East Side tenement, the VNSNY has become the largest not-for-profit home health care agency in the nation. In 2005, its over 9,800 care providers made 2,200,000 professional home visits to more than 115,000 patients in New York City and its suburbs.

The VNSNY records are currently on deposit with Archives & Special Collections with the possibility of them being donated at a later date. The records, which were processed by a consulting archivist in the early 1990s, should be open for researchers in a few months.

## **2. New York-Presbyterian Hospital**

New York-Presbyterian Hospital has deposited the records of many of its predecessor organizations with Archives & Special Collections. The bulk of the records are of Presbyterian Hospital, which merged with New York Hospital in 1997 to form NYPH. Included are minutes of the Board of Trustees (1868-1954), Medical Board (1872-1991), and numerous committees; records of the women's auxiliary (c.1905-1970s) and the Alumni Society (1891-1954); and miscellaneous legal documents (c.1870s-1960s).

Other records in the deposit are those of the Neurological Institute of New York (Trustees and Medical Board minutes, 1909-1935); Babies Hospital (Trustees and Medical Board minutes, 1892-1944; women's auxiliary records, 1907-1990s); and the Joint Administrative Board, which supervised the construction of the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in the 1920s (Board and committee minutes; loose papers; and scrapbooks). In total, the records amount to about 26 cubic feet.



Since none of the records of the hospitals' superintendents, directors, or presidents seem to have survived, these minute books provide the only documentation of the activities of three hospitals of both local and national significance. Presbyterian Hospital, established in 1868 by philanthropist and book collector Robert Lenox (his library was one of the three initial collections of the New York Public Library), was founded on the explicit pledge to be open to all "without regard to race, creed or color." In 1911 it allied itself with Columbia University to form one of the first academic medical centers in the US, known until recently as the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center.

When it opened in 1909, the Neurological Institute of NY was the first hospital in the Western Hemisphere devoted solely to neurological disorders. Babies Hospital, founded in 1887 by five women to provide "medical and surgical aid and nursing for sick babies," was the first such hospital in New York City and one of the earliest in the nation. Its early physician-in-chief, L. Emmett Holt (1888-1924), was one of the leading American pediatricians of his era. Both hospitals moved to the Medical Center in 1929 and merged with Presbyterian Hospital in 1943.

Archives & Special Collections has long been the archives for Columbia's schools of medicine, dentistry, nursing, and public health. We are especially pleased to receive the records of three organizations that have been closely intertwined with the university for almost a century. Records of New York Hospital and its predecessors, the other side of the New York-Presbyterian merger, remain at the Medical Archives of the Weill Cornell Medical Center.

For more information contact Archives & Special Collections at

[hsl-archives@columbia.edu](mailto:hsl-archives@columbia.edu)

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### *Sir Bernard Spilsbury Case Notes Open to Research*

The Wellcome Library is delighted to announce that the case notes of Sir Bernard Spilsbury (1877-1947), purchased at auction in 2008, have now been catalogued and are available to researchers.

British-born Spilsbury was a famous and controversial pathologist during the early 20th century. He appeared as a prosecution witness for the Crown in many high-profile murder cases, including the famous case of the death of Dr Crippen's wife. Often hailed as the 'father of modern forensics', recent accounts of Spilsbury's career have called into question some of his methods. Our collection consists of over 3500 index cards, containing notes made by Spilsbury on pathological investigations he performed between 1905 and 1933. Although they do not include many of the most famous cases he was involved with, they do, include a significant number of cases in which death was the result of a criminal action. The majority, however, deal with sudden or unexpected deaths through natural causes or accidents.

The case notes, we are sure, will prove to be an exciting and rich resource. They have already been dubbed "a trove of medical and social history...[which] offers a unique insight into the British way of death in an earlier age" (*The Times*, 2 January 2009).

To see the catalogue for the case notes, go to our Archives and Manuscripts online catalogue <http://archives.wellcome.ac.uk> and search for the reference PP/SPI.

Queries concerning the collection should be addressed to [archs+mss@wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:archs+mss@wellcome.ac.uk)

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## EXHIBITIONS

### *The People's Medicine Comes to Massachusetts: Establishing a Family Medicine Residency at UMass Medical School*

This new web-based historical exhibit describes the background and significance for health care in Massachusetts of the founding of the state's first Family Medicine residency in 1974 <http://library.umassmed.edu/omha/fmch/index.cfm>. Using archival documents and oral history interviews, we recreate the challenges of bringing Family Medicine to an academic health center. Also included are audio clips, digitized documents, and a bibliography as well as historical analysis. Complete text references are available from [ellen.more@umassmed.edu](mailto:ellen.more@umassmed.edu).

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## *Overcoming the Rejection Factor: MUSC's First Organ Transplant*

The Waring Historical Library and MUSC Archives announce the opening of a new web exhibit which can be viewed at [www.library.musc.edu/exhibits/kidney](http://www.library.musc.edu/exhibits/kidney). Forty years ago, on December 3, 1968, the Medical College of South Carolina (now MUSC) performed the first major organ transplant in its history and the first in the state of South Carolina. The kidney transplant was performed by a team of doctors who, in the years and months preceding the operation, developed an innovative procedure that addressed the body's acceptance or rejection of foreign matter. The new online exhibit tells the story of this extraordinary event through oral history interviews and archival records. For more information about the web exhibit, please contact Brooke Fox, University Archivist at [foxeb@musc.edu](mailto:foxeb@musc.edu).

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## *Making Visible Embryos*

The University of Cambridge presents *Making Visible Embryos*, which traces the history of science's understanding of human embryo development. Using illustrations dating from the age of the Enlightenment to the models and photographs of the 20th – 21st century, the exhibit explores how the technology of the modern era has “communicated new attitudes to childbirth, evolution and reproduction.” The exhibit can be viewed at <http://www.hps.cam.ac.uk/visibleembryos/>

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## *Mayo Foundation History of Medicine Library Presents: A Brief History Of Midwifery.*

The art of midwifery must be one of the oldest of acquired skills. Most midwives guarded the secrets of their profession so little practical value was handed down in writing. By the middle of the 17th century the first development of practical delivery, by men only, started in France at the Hôtel Dieu. Midwives now became the assistants of the “accoucheurs”, as the French practitioners called themselves. Obstetrical forceps more than any other factor changed midwifery from an exclusively female occupation

into a male profession. This instrument provided a means of saving the lives of many mothers and infants. This exhibit, which opens January 29th 2009, covers some of the history of midwifery in Europe and the United States during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. It can be seen in the History of Medicine Library, Plummer 15-07, Mayo Medical Libraries, 200 First Street SW, Rochester, MN 55905 during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please contact Hilary J. Lane, History of Medicine Library Coordinator at (507) 284-3676 or e. mail [lane.hilary@mayo.edu](mailto:lane.hilary@mayo.edu) for information.

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### *Traveling Exhibitions to America's Libraries: a Report on the National Library of Medicine Traveling Exhibition Services*

The Exhibition Program at the National Library of Medicine develops engaging programs about the social and cultural history of science and medicine for visitors of all ages and all walks of life, across the country. These exhibitions, websites, and public programs create opportunities for the Library to partner with medical schools, schools of public health, and university and public libraries while introducing Library services to new audiences, and encouraging young people to consider careers in the health sciences.



Over the last ten years, the Exhibition Program has been developing different options for adapting the Library's flagship exhibitions to travel. The first show to travel was *Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature*, developed in collaboration with the American Library Association, with partial funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This large panel

exhibition consisting of six 10' by 12' panels traveled to 82 libraries in 38 states between 2001 and 2006 reaching 1.1 million visitors. The show, however, still has life in it. Since that time, the Exhibition Program has reanimated *Frankenstein*, making it available free of charge to interested libraries. We currently have the show booked through the beginning of 2010.

The second project the Exhibition Program is traveling, in collaboration with the American Library Association, is *Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians*. This is another large panel exhibition that includes two free-standing computer stations with multimedia from the original exhibition. In addition, visitors can access the "Local Legends" component of the project. Launched in 2005, the traveling exhibition will visit sixty-one libraries in thirty-six states over five years.

With generous support from the Office of the Director, the Exhibition Program is launching a copy of *Changing the Face of Medicine*, making it available to twenty-four medical school libraries that were not among the original recipients of the exhibition through the American Library Association tour. The Library of the Health Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago is the first site of this special tour, opening in February 2009. Once the original twenty-four sites have been confirmed, the exhibition may be made available to other interested institutions.

Not all libraries interested in hosting a National Library of Medicine exhibition have the physical space to accommodate a larger panel exhibition with computer kiosks. Feedback shared by one of our Regional Medical Libraries was that some libraries were interested in hosting one of our traveling exhibitions but they did not have the space. Thus, in order to reach this segment of our audience, the Exhibition Program launched a new product that is versatile, inexpensive to produce and ship, and has a smaller space requirement. Developed in conjunction with the Reginald L. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture, *Opening Doors: Contemporary African-American Academic Surgeons* is a traveling banner exhibition consisting of six free standing 2' by 6' light weight banners. The show was a resounding success with three copies of the exhibition booked at fifty-five libraries in twenty-nine states within two weeks of the opening reception.



This year, expanding on an earlier project about the popular Harry Potter phenomenon and the history of medicine, the Exhibition Program developed a traveling banner exhibition entitled *Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine*. In a new collaboration with the American Library Association (they typically do not travel banner exhibitions) two copies of the



show will be made available to libraries across the country with an expected tour launch date of summer 2009.



Most recently, the Exhibition Program adapted the flagship exhibition *Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health* to the traveling banner format. Working in conjunction with the National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology and the Association of Schools of Public Health, one copy of the exhibition is traveling to schools of public health, while the Exhibition Program manages a tour of a second copy, which is currently booked at twenty locations in thirteen states and two countries.

The Exhibition Program develops a dynamic online educational component for all the Library's flagship exhibitions, which then becomes part of outreach resources when shows are adapted to travel. More recently, when traveling exhibitions are developed independent of the Library's flagship projects, such as the new Harry Potter banner show, the Exhibition Program develops an educational component to supplement the online version of the exhibition. Currently, the National Library of Medicine has five travelling exhibition projects that are scheduled to go to hundreds of libraries across the country. When each show opens, the event enlivens a community. The opening creates new public relations and outreach opportunities. Libraries forge new connections, offer special programs, and showcase their own collections. Visitors learn about medicine and science, and history and culture, and the resources of the National Library of Medicine.

During these challenging economic times, traveling exhibitions are proving to be sound, cost effective, intellectually engaging, and effective ways to introduce new audiences across the country to the NLM's rich resources, to forge new connections with medical school libraries, university and public libraries, and to inform young people about different career options in the health sciences.

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## EVENTS

### CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

#### **The 2009 Midwest Archives Conference Annual Meeting**

We hope everyone can join us as we “Catch the Spirit of St. Louis” at the beautiful Hyatt Regency St. Louis Riverfront, April 29 – May 2.

Concurrent seminars and panel discussions are offered to attendees on topics such as videotape preservation, assessing and managing digital collections, and serving patrons in the 21st century. Several pre-conference workshops are also available, on electronic records, ethics, ARCHON and Archivist’s Toolkit, and an all-day program on Disaster Preparation and Wet Salvage of Materials taught at National Personnel Records Center. MAC 2009 will also feature plenty of opportunities to meet new and old friends, and get to know the great city of St. Louis. Organized tours include the Old Courthouse (site of the Dred Scott court case), a walking tour of downtown St. Louis, the Anheuser-Busch Brewery, and the National Personnel Records Center facility. Thursday night join us for a reception in the Missouri History Museum’s Grand Hall. Further details are available at <http://www.midwestarchives.org/2009Spring> or e-mail the Local Arrangements Committee chair Scott Grimwood, [scott\\_grimwood@ssmhc.com](mailto:scott_grimwood@ssmhc.com).

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### LECTURES

#### **C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society Lectures on the WWW**

Every year the C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society sponsors five evening lectures on a wide variety of topics. The Office of Medical Education at the University of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine is providing the funding for very high quality recording of this year’s lectures and is placing them directly on the WWW. The first is John Eyler, Ph.D. Professor of the History of Medicine, University of Minnesota, School of Medicine, “Taming the Flu: Influenza Vaccines and American Virology, 1937-1957.” <http://tinyurl.com/6dvwp8>. The second is the 15th Annual Sylvan E. Stool History of

Medicine Lecture, David H. Darrow, M.D., D.D.S., Professor of Otolaryngology and Pediatrics, Eastern Virginia Medical School, "Ails to the Chief: Three American Presidents and Their ENT Maladies." <http://tinyurl.com/65x3zj>

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## MISCELLANEA

### *NYAM Library Receives Save America's Treasures Grant*

The New York Academy of Medicine's Library was recently awarded a \$500,000 Save America's Treasures grant to help improve the environmental conditions in areas of the building in which significant portions of the collection are housed. In 2006, the NYAM Library completed a Preservation Needs Assessment funded by the NEH. The Library and the NYAM administration took the recommendations and priorities set forth in the resulting report very seriously and plans were made to seek funding to implement them. This grant will provide for significant upgrades in several stack areas. Save America's Treasures, a program administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, annually awards grants "to conserve significant U.S. cultural and historic treasures which illustrate, interpret and are associated with the great events, ideas, and individuals that contribute to our nation's history and culture."

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## BOOK REVIEWS

Allen, Max, *Medicine under Canvas: The War Journal of the 77th Evacuation Hospital* (Kansas City: The University of Kansas Medical Center, 2008)



During the summer of 1940, the United State Surgeon General contacted H.R. Wahl, M.D., Dean of the University Of Kansas School Of Medicine, and proposed the organization of the school's professional personnel, doctors and nurses, for an affiliated evacuation hospital unit. Conceived during the days before Pearl Harbor, and activated in early 1942, the 77th was hurried through training, rushed to a staging camp, sped to a port of embarkation, and shipped to England.

After barely enough time to consolidate the unit, the doctors and nurses joined the North African invasion, functioning first at Oran. Within a matter of hours after landing, the 77th demonstrated the resourcefulness, speed, and hard work which were to characterize the unit as they followed the war throughout Europe during the next three years. The 77th's ability to recognize problems, to throw away the book and improvise, and to do a good job regardless of situation or supply, characterized their performance during World War II.

*Medicine under Canvas: A War Journal of the 77th Evacuation Hospital* is a 2008 reprinting of the book, which was initially started in 1945 while the unit was still in the field in Europe, and completed and edited by Max Allen, MD, after their return to the United States. The work was first published in 1949 by the University of Kansas Medical Center, and is a unique and fascinating source of medical and military history, detailing the creation, composition and travels of the 77th during the war. Containing insightful sections on the experience of the wounded soldier, as well as first hand details about military medicine in North Africa, Sicily, England, France, Belgium, and Germany, the 77th supported the Allied troops during most major offensives in the European Theatre of Operations.

A companion documentary to *Medicine Under Canvas* is a 72 minute film, written by Dan Ginavan, containing never before released color footage shot by doctors of the 77th throughout the war. Also, using original interviews with unit members and US government footage, the experiences of the 77th Evacuation Hospital are related in this engaging and moving film. This documentary follows the same chronological structure as the book, but the addition of the original interviews expands the information and helps the viewer learn more about life in a tent hospital during the war.

The 2008 reprint of the book is 194 pages hard cover, and is available for \$29.95 through the University of Kansas Medical Center Bookstore at [www.kumedbooks.com](http://www.kumedbooks.com). The DVD, \$19.95, is also available through the bookstore.

**Nancy Hulston**

Director of Archives, Museum, and Exhibits  
University of Kansas Medical Center

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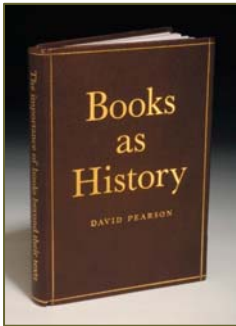
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Books with Pictures: Review of David Pearson, *Books as History* (London: The British Library and New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Press, 2008) and Richard Benson, *The Printed Picture* (New York: The Museum of Modern Art, 2008)

Librarians (and archivists!) in the history of the health sciences often have two distinct sets of duties. The first concerns the collection, organization, preservation, and circulation of the secondary source materials in our field: books, articles, pamphlets, whatever. The second set of duties is to perform similar services for primary source materials. Generally, these materials will have additional concerns for the librarian/archivist: their intellectual content will be great, but their artifactual value may be even greater. Some of us are fortunate enough to have formal training in the world of “rare” books, but such training is increasingly hard to find. Most of us pick up this specialized knowledge where we can.

It is a pleasure, therefore, to review two fine new books that should be of great value to anyone who deals with rare materials: David Pearson's *Books as History* and Richard Benson's *The Printed Picture*. These are both handsomely produced books that provide a wealth of reference material in highly specialized areas in very readable form.





Pearson's book is a lavishly illustrated stroll through the many physical forms we lump under the simple word "book." But it is his sub-title that is most telling: "The importance of books beyond their texts." In the age we live in, where the book as a physical, tactile item is predicted by some to disappear, Pearson would have us remember that how we understand a text is and will always be conditioned by the format in which the text is conveyed. Does it matter whether we first read "Hamlet" in a Folger mass-market

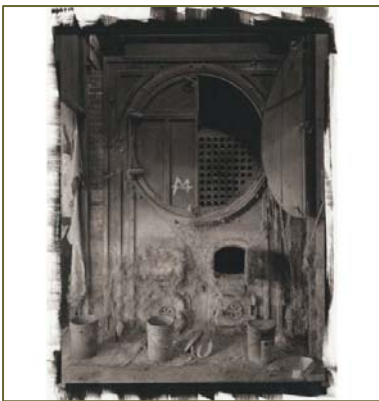
paperback, a slightly grander Arden trade edition, an Oxford University Press anthology with tiny type and few notes, the Norton/Hinman First Folio facsimile, or even the Octavo .pdf version of an actual First Folio? Pearson would say yes, and it is hard to disagree. Recent publications are little different. British and Canadian readers of the "Harry Potter" novels see different texts and even titles than their American counterparts (what is a Sorcerer's Stone, anyway?). In this era of alternative formats, other layers have been added as well: in the United States and Canada, ALL of the Harry Potter audio books (available at the same time as the printed editions - - - no delay to see if they were worth doing) have been read by a single person, the British actor Jim Dale. That is correct: every line, every character, every voice (Stephen Fry does the audio books in Britain). If one is visually-impaired or simply prefers listening to audio books during the morning commute, how does the pre-filtering affect our appreciation of the text? Dale reads every word aloud, but does he feel them as we do?

Pearson makes his argument most clearly in a "case study" of five variant copies of Francis Bacon's *Historie of the Raigne of King Henry VII* (1622) that ends his book, but it underlies his entire text. He reminds us of the endless possibility for variation even in the modern mass-produced book, which he illustrates with a wonderful photograph of the Xinhua Press, one of China's largest, producing Chinese-English dictionaries for Oxford University Press. There are also thoughtful discussions of copy-specific variations: the world of the hand-annotated book.

This book's greatest strength leads to its only significant weakness. There are SO many luscious illustrations, with so much information in their detailed captions that they can actually interfere with the reading of the main text. It's rather like a National Geographic article, with five- or six-page mini photo-essay plopped down in the middle of things, so that by the time one finishes the mini essay, you need to go looking again for the main

text. But it is hard to see how it could have been done otherwise without sacrificing the richness of Pearson's work.

It should be noted that Pearson's book was published in the United States by Oak Knoll, located in New Castle, Delaware. For many years, Oak Knoll has performed multiple services for the rare book specialist: as a source for used and out-of-print titles (specializing in books about books), reprinting classics in bibliography, and publishing new works such as this one. No one interested in the history of books should be unfamiliar with their efforts and their list.



*The Printed Picture*, by Richard Benson, is another beautiful book with a very strong text that describes in great detail "pictures and the ways in which they are printed" (p. 2): some simple, some amazingly complex. The Introduction explains that the text grew from lectures on the subject delivered at Yale University over a period of thirty years, and it is certainly true that there is first-person immediacy to the text that is very appealing. It is detailed without being either boring or picayune, and is

equally useful as either reference or entertainment. The only book I can recall that covers even vaguely similar ground is Bamber Gascoigne's *How to Identify Prints*, a work familiar to Rare Book School veterans. In fact, there is a least one image (a charming wood engraving of Frederick Law Olmstead) that appears in both books. Gascoigne may be more useful as a tool to identify a given print in the hand, but Benson is far more detailed on recent processes, and generally an intellectually richer source. He even identifies the sources for ALL of the images used, which Gascoigne does not. Benson also takes on the vexed issue of printing photographs, which deserves a book of its own.

Is this information worth having close at hand? The answer must be yes. First, there is the aesthetic pleasure of knowing exactly what you are looking at, appreciating the nuances of each process, and understanding how the artist/craftsman/printer/publisher who selected that process dealt with the strengths and weaknesses, the possibilities and limitations, of each form. There is also a more practical application for the working librarian. If two supposedly identical books before you are 17th century and illustrated with etchings or engravings, and the plates appear in different locations within the text block, one need not be overly concerned. Etchings and engravings go through a

different press than a letterpress text block, so they could be tipped in virtually anywhere. But if the plates are woodcuts, and the same situation prevails, someone has some explaining to do; woodcuts were printed along with the text, and should not wander. And beware of the catalogue advertising a 16th century book illustrated with aquatints or wood engravings, as neither process was yet available. As professionals, we need to know what we are looking at.

*The Printed Picture* is actually the catalogue of an exhibition held at the Museum of from October 17, 2008 to June 1, 2009, which I was fortunate enough to see on a recent visit to New York City. The contrast between the catalogue and the exhibit itself is intriguing: essentially the same intellectual material packaged for two different audiences and uses. Sometimes the two are mirrors of each other (proof sheets of the catalogue are included in the exhibit). The catalogue offers all the scholarly convenience and apparatus of a good book, but when the exhibit shows a mezzotint or a woodburytype on the museum walls, the catalogue can only offer a high tech halftone of these archaic and arcane processes. If you can, you should see both the show and the book.

In conclusion, these are two books we should all be familiar with. It is also a pleasure to report that both of these books are reasonably priced (\$60 for Benson, \$49.95 for Pearson).

**Stephen Greenberg**

Coordinator, Public Services  
History of Medicine Division  
National Library of Medicine

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