



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

**Volume XXVIII, Number 3  
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## SPECIAL 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!

### The ALHHS 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

[Editor's note: What follows is the substance of Joan Echtenkamp Klein's and Jodi Koste's after-dinner multimedia show at the Tutwiler Hotel, Birmingham, Alabama, April 6, 2005.]

The Association of Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences had its humble beginning with a simple flyer calling interested librarians to a no-host breakfast in Charleston, South Carolina, during the 47<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine in May of 1974. Twenty-eight people representing twelve states, the District of Columbia, and Canada gathered for the breakfast meeting. Included in this august group were Alfred N. Brandon of the New York Academy of Medicine, Dr. John Blake of the National Library of Medicine, Lisabeth Holloway of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Robin Overmier of the Owen H. Wangensteen Historical Library of Biology and Medicine at the University of Minnesota, and Glen Jenkins of the Dittrick Medical History Center of the Cleveland Health Sciences Library. The consensus of the group was that they should formally organize as an independent association of medical history librarians "entirely on their own jurisdiction, without supervision or benevolent paternalism of anybody else." In short, to use Lisabeth Holloway's words, "To give us a room of our own."

Everything was almost perfect about this initial gathering except the early meeting time. "The general consensus was that this was a wonderful idea, that we

should do it every year, but not at such an ungodly hour," or, as another early member reflected, "I remember the Charleston breakfast well and confess to considerable sympathy with whoever complained about the early hour. Without having been conscious most of the day and without the mellowness of spirit acquired from a cocktail or two, I can scarcely take life seriously, let alone medical libraries."

Building on this momentum, Lisabeth Holloway and Doris Thibodeau of the Johns Hopkins University invited those who attended the Charleston breakfast to the founding meeting of the ALHHS. This historic event was held in the hallowed halls of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. The group of 28 people agreed to meet on a regular basis, hold a variety of practical programs featuring workshops, tours, and speakers, publish a newsletter, and become a forum for discussion of common interests. The group also agreed that it would have as little structure and as few expenses as possible! Lisabeth Holloway consented to be the Chairperson pro tem; the first Steering Committee was composed of Nancy Zinn of the University of California at San Francisco, Janet Koudelka of the Institute of the History of Medicine at Johns Hopkins, Doris Thibodeau of Hopkins, John Erlen of the Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, now of the University of Pittsburgh, Ruth Mann, the former Chair of the History of the Health Sciences Section of the Medical Library Association, and Helen Crawford of the Health Sciences Library at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. One of the most difficult tasks of organizing this new association was selecting an appropriate name — a theme that would be revisited. Some of the initial choices were The Solander Society (Can you imagine

us being named for a box? We're not THAT square! ), The Garrison-Morton Society, and, of course, the eventual choice, the long title with the three prepositions that we used as our official name for over sixteen years, the Association of Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences.

Selecting a logo for the association proved to be an easier task. Our familiar symbol was adapted from a printer's device of Angelus Britannicus published in a 1486 work by Rhazes. The logo, frequently seen in the pages of *The Watermark*, was the basis for the design for all of the ALHHS awards and decorates your anniversary commemorative bookmarks.

The newsletter, proposed at the founding meeting, made its first appearance in October of 1976. Along with items of news, this issue carried the proposed constitution and by-laws. As with all names associated with this organization, the membership voted on the name of the new newsletter, christening it *The Watermark*. From its numerous pages we have pulled many of the tidbits we share with you this evening.

Through the newsletter and letters to the membership, the early ALHHS officers did their best to keep the membership informed even in the days before e-mail and listservs. Writing in 1982, President Doris Thibodeau noted, "Johns Hopkins has some hair from the cow from which the first cowpox vaccine was taken, if anyone is interested." We're not sure if she was offering free samples, but we'll have to ask Christine Ruggere if this artifact is still available.

One of the many activities of the association is the planning of the annual meetings. Countless individuals have been involved over the last 30 years in arranging stimulating programs, organizing tours of interest, and planning a variety of social activities so that our members can network informally. With one exception the annual meetings have always been held just prior to the opening of the American Association for the History of Medicine conference. The standard was set in 1976 when the group gathered in Galveston, Texas. Dr. Chauncey D. Leake of the University of California at San Francisco gave a spirited talk, "Standing on the Shoulders of the Giants," which highlighted the medical sources and libraries of ancient Egypt and Greece. Dr. Leake was followed by Dr. Truman G. Blocker, president emeritus of the University of Texas Medical Branch, who presented a first-hand account of the de-

velopment of the Southwest's largest collection in the history of medicine. Lest you think that this group of librarians was all work and no play, the evening concluded with a business session in "one of the cocktail lounges of the Flagship Hotel," where "librarians talked about common concerns and future plans while sipping sherry and enjoying a view of the Gulf of Mexico."

Our organization's founders were very concerned that librarians retain control of the organization and originally limited voting membership to those "actively engaged in the librarianship of the history of the health sciences." Heaven forbid that some of those feisty historians should be in charge! Thankfully our antiquarian book dealer friends and library/archives loving historians chose to be actively involved with us. They have contributed significantly over the years to the programs and activities of the organization. It became increasingly clear that our associates in the history of the health sciences field should be enfranchised, and in 1993 the ALHHS by-laws were amended to grant voting privileges to all members.

One of the deservedly popular ALHHS activities is the now traditional Wednesday night dinner before the Thursday morning meeting. In 1985 Nancy Bruce of the Health Sciences Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill proposed holding a dinner and business gathering on the evening preceding the annual ALHHS meeting as a "relaxed way to start." By the following year the pre-meeting dinner had become an annual event. Memorable dinners of the past decade include an artful dinner in 1996 at Calumet in Buffalo, where we were the only patrons of the arts **and** the restaurant for the evening. In 1997 we journeyed back in time when we dined in the colonial-era Shields Tavern in Williamsburg, Virginia. At the Moven Pick in Toronto in 1998, we were given our own room for the reception and dinner, which was certainly in keeping with Lisabeth Holloway's wish in 1974 that we have a "room of our own." Most of us make no claims to being officers and gentlemen or gentlewomen, but in Bethesda, Maryland, in 2000, we were certainly treated as if we were, when we dined at the Naval Officers' Club; it was in that venue that we celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an association. Our delectable dinner at Fish perfectly set the tone for the 2001 meeting in historic and very lovely Charleston, South Carolina. We went from the seashore to the heartland for our 2002 meeting in Kansas City, where we dined on the local

gastronomic specialty—barbeque—in the Clendening Library. In 2003 we went back to the seashore, this time much further north; the Barking Crab in Boston was the al fresco setting for our dinner, right on the water and featuring freshly caught entrees. And, to bring us almost up to date, last year even though it snowed in Madison, Wisconsin, we celebrated spring and our annual get-together with friends and colleagues at Marigolds.

As the membership grew and diversified, it became apparent that the association's name no longer reflected all of its members. The ALHHS Steering Committee formed an *ad hoc* name change committee. After considering the retention of the association's original name, the group also suggested the following names: Association of Librarians and Archivists in the History of Medicine; Medical History Documentation Association; Association for the Documentation of the History of Medicine; and The John Shaw Billings Society—and after having two ballots, the association was renamed the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences, preserving the organization's original acronym, ALHHS. Today ALHHS has 167 mem-

bers from 29 states, the District of Columbia, Australia, Canada, Switzerland, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom. We have moved a long way from that nascent group of 28.

Through the 1990s our membership grew steadily. In AAHM circles it was soon learned that librarians have more fun and our membership roles expanded to include museum professionals, historians, physicians, and others who love the history of medicine. Our group has attracted both the distinguished and the powerful!

In addition to having fun, we are also known for planning interesting and thought-provoking programs. In 1991, librarians, book dealers, and curators combined talents to present "Ethical Issues and Special Collections." Five years later we featured our first program with invited papers when we met in Louisville. ALHHS members collaborated in 2000 to discuss managing history of medicine collections in non-historical environments. Just two years ago we tackled HIPAA for the first time at the Boston meeting, where our speakers took their best shots at taming that two-ton hippo.



*Left to right: Tom Horrocks, Joan Echtenkamp Klein, Lois Densky-Wolff, Ynez O'Neill, Mary Teloh, Judy Chelnick, and Kathy Donahue on the Ellis Island ferry in 1999.*

Most successful programs include tours of archives, libraries, historical sites, and museums. You may not be able to herd cats, but you can certainly herd a group of ALHHSers when a trip to the Ether Dome is on the line. In 1999 many of us enjoyed the ferry trip to Ellis Island. Little did we know how significant and historical our photographs of the New York skyline, with the twin towers present, would become.

Part of the mission of our association is to recognize achievement in the field of medical history librarianship. Since 1992 the ALHHS has established four different awards to honor those who have served our organization, made gifts of an extraordinary nature to health sciences libraries, or written a significant publication related to the history of the health care sciences.

Of all our association's tall tales, none tops the tomato. Like the ALHHS, this story had its beginnings in the hallowed halls of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. During the 1987 banquet in the historic S. Weir Mitchell Hall, many were enjoying surf and turf. For a number of years, the AAHM had featured a particularly tasty vegetarian entrée as an alternative to rubber chicken and shoe-leather beef. In fact, the reputation of these vegetarian plates had grown to such a point that Greg Higby bragged about the high quality and value of these entrées. On that fateful night in Philadelphia, the roof caved in on the veggie plate. Greg was served one small, shriveled tomato with an unidentifiable neon green topping. John Parascandola, never letting an opportunity pass him by, decided he would get in his own digs. During the post-banquet wrap-up session in the bar, John persuaded the bartender to serve poor, unsuspecting Greg yet another tomato! Little did he realize that this act would grow to something beyond his control. Enjoying a false sense of security while in the company of distinguished historians at the banquet in Baltimore the following year, John was shocked when he received a special dessert of a tomato. And the hijinks have continued down through the years. At every banquet since Baltimore, a tomato has made its appearance at John's table. The presentation of the tomato has become such a consistent part of meetings, that the perpetrators don't even have to be at the function to have the tomato delivered, as there has been no lack of henchmen to help with the tomato caper. One of the highlights of the tomato tale occurred somewhere over middle America, while members of the East Coast history of medicine contingent were headed for Seattle. John was totally dumbfounded when the flight atten-

dant handed him his in-flight meal; she had been persuaded that the gentleman in 20F had special dietary needs. Another highlight occurred at the Kansas City banquet when Judith Leavitt, AAHM Chair, went along with the gag and let Jodi Koste take the podium during the official awards ceremony to present John Parascandola with a special award; some members of the audience are probably still scratching their heads and wondering about that particular presentation since it was so close to the genuine article! As a result of his central role in the tale, John has taken up collecting tomato-related items; he, as well as his friends and family, search the world over for tomato paraphernalia.



Sustaining an association for 30 years requires many ingredients: the fellowship and fun, and the dedication and commitment of individual members. Those who have served as officers, committee chairs, newsletter editors, or other important roles since that fateful group of 28 gathered in Charleston, South Carolina, are to be commended for their service.

The collegial contacts and enduring friendships fostered by ALHHS are perhaps the most important function of our organization. As Lucretia McClure, the 2003 recipient of the Lisabeth M. Holloway Award — which recognizes significant contributions through leadership and service to ALHHS and the profession — noted: "You may not remember a specific program presented at the ALHHS meeting, but you will never forget the colleagues you meet and come to know through our annual meetings. The most important benefit of our membership is getting to know others in the history of medicine library field. We have had many wonderful evenings together, evenings that brought us together as friends. Our meetings have

given us the opportunity to see many of the libraries with special collections and given us the opportunity to know what our colleagues are collecting and preserving. Our support of each other and our profession has continued to grow through our [30] years."

So, as we look back to our founding 30 years ago, we simultaneously look forward to celebrating many more anniversaries with our ALHHS friends and colleagues.

Happy Thirtieth, ALHHS! Cheers!



*A few ALHHS past presidents in 1995: clockwise from left: Lisabeth Holloway, Phil Teigen, Glen Jenkins, Barbara Irwin, Nancy Zinn, and Robin Overmier.*



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## Reports of the ALHHS Annual Meeting April 6-7, 2005 Birmingham, Alabama

### Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 6, 2005 4:00-6:00 p.m.  
Hospitality Suite 407, Sheraton-Birmingham

Present: Lilla Vekerdy (President), Jodi Koste (Immediate Past President), Micaela Sullivan-Fowler (Recorder, Secretary/Treasurer), Elaine Challacombe, Patricia Gallagher, Eric v.d. Luft, Stephen Greenberg, Michael Flannery and Tim Pennycuff (Local Arrangements), Lucretia McClure, Katharine Donahue, Susan Rishworth, Suzanne Porter, Charlie Greifenstein, and Steve Novak.

Called to order: 4:11 pm

#### Old Business

Jodi Koste welcomed us, as Lilla Vekerdy was delayed.

Minutes from the Madison, Wisconsin meeting on April 28-29, 2004 were approved as published in *The Watermark* 27, 3-4 (Summer and Fall 2004): 33-38.

Micaela Sullivan-Fowler submitted and highlighted the Treasurer's Report. The ALHHS opening balance as of March 31, 2005 was \$19,240.75. Income (April 2004 – March 2005) was \$6,760.25. Expenditures (April 2004 – March 2005) were \$7,266.83. Other assets are an \$8,000 CD (now worth \$8,288.88) currently earning 0.9%. Total assets as of March 31, 2005 are \$27,529.63. The Treasurer's Report was accepted. Elaine Challacombe had audited the financial records and discovered no mismanagement or irregularities.

After mentioning the number of members (152), and the difficulties inherent in collecting yearly fees — a small percentage did not renew, others took two reminders to send in their dues, we had a handful of new members — Micaela discussed the idea that the membership renewal form be online next year. We would not collect money online, the monies would still be sent to the Treasurer, but it would offer another avenue to obtain the form. We did mention using something like PayPal to facilitate actual online payment, but

nothing was resolved. Patricia Gallagher has been voted in as the 2005-2007 Secretary-Treasurer, so she may look into the matter. Micaela also mentioned that the University of Wisconsin has paid for postage, etc. for membership renewal. That will likely come out of ALHHS funds next year.

We discussed the possibility of having the bank account remain in Madison (with Micaela) during Patricia's term. Micaela and Patricia will work out a way to have checks deposited, etc., while Patricia does the membership updates and bookkeeping. Micaela will have a signature card sent to Patricia so that Patricia can sign checks, etc. Patricia will look into a more lucrative interest rate when the CD comes due again, in June 2005. The CD might be transferred at that point. There was a motion for the ALHHS account to remain in Madison for the next year. The motion was approved. Micaela will send Patricia all the necessary paperwork, and a copy of the Access database with the membership information.

During the course of asking members to renew, Micaela discovered that a number of people were still on the ALHHS-L listserv roster, but were no longer members. In theory they are receiving e-mails from the membership, when they should not be. Micaela, Eric, and Patricia will remedy this situation and update the list.

Tim Pennycuff and Mike Flannery, our wonderful Local Arrangements Committee, welcomed us to Birmingham, reminded us about dinner at the Tutwiler, and joked about a potential spring tornado (it was stormy that night, but no tornadic activity was reported).

Lilla arrived and began discussion about our recent dynamic election protocol and our editorial policy regarding *The Watermark*.

We reiterated the proper process for electing officers:

1. There is a Nominating Committee appointed by the President. The Steering Committee can offer names.
2. The Nominating Committee solicits names from the membership.
3. The Nominating Committee chooses a name for each open office.
4. A ballot is sent out with each name uncontested, then the membership "votes," essentially verifying the choices originally made by the Nominating Committee.

There is also a write-in section. Though last year the membership had decided that they did not want another contested election (it was contested in 2003-2004), our election was again contested because of a glitch with our e-mail communications. The By-Laws actually allow for either type of "election."

When Suzanne Porter sent out the call on ALHHS-L for nominations, people responded to the listserv rather than to Suzanne, effectively creating a "contest" between the names being nominated. Suzanne and others then felt that two names needed to be submitted for each office so that the membership could truly decide. The two candidates for President, Stephen Greenberg and Micaela, were comfortable with a contested election. Patricia was unopposed for Secretary-Treasurer because Eric dropped his name when he learned he was to become Editor of *The Watermark*. There were three names, Christine Ruggere, Russell Johnson, and Nonnie Klein, entered for Members-at-Large. Christine and Russell are the new Members-at-Large. Micaela is the new President Elect.

We discussed the fact that the membership had already voiced their opinions at the annual meeting last year, but *The Watermark* with these minutes was not published until December, so the decisions reached in Madison were not paramount in our minds. We discussed the shortcomings and strengths of having contested elections, e.g., our group is small and we do not want to discourage people from holding office; people's feelings are not that easily hurt; and perhaps the Nominating Committee should not be the final arbiter of who is chosen.

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Amid much discussion, Susan Rishworth suggested that when the President selects a Nominating Committee, and they do their job appropriately, they should be able to speak for the membership, based on the names that they receive. Stephen Novak pointed out that if there were a tie in a contested election, the Chair (perhaps someone from the Steering Committee would be a good candidate for Chair) would have to break the tie. Lucretia suggested that tomorrow Lilla should start by reading the section from *The Watermark* that mentions the election discussion from last year's meeting, again invite discussion about single slate vs. contested elections, and ask the membership to decide. There was a motion to bring this discussion to the membership tomorrow. The motion was approved.

Eric Luft gave the report on *The Watermark*. Following the late publication of the Spring 2004 issue and the

non-publication of the Summer 2004 issue, our Editor, Linda Lohr, resigned in early December and handed over the reins to the appointed Interim Editor, Eric, for the Summer and Fall 2004 combined issue and the Winter 2004-2005 issue. Subsequently, the Steering Committee appointed Eric as Editor of *The Watermark* effective with the Spring 2005 issue. Eric's first two acts as Interim Editor were to secure an ISSN for *The Watermark* and to enlist the services of Stephen Greenberg as Book Review Editor.

Micaela mentioned that advertisers were given four ads for the price of three in 2005 to compensate them for there having been only three issues appearing in 2004, when they paid for four ads. Two advertisers did not renew because of personal or financial reasons, but we garnered one new advertiser, Herbalist and Alchemist Books, thanks to Eric's online solicitation.

We agreed that we should be clear on the purpose of *The Watermark*. The Publications Committee, Eric, Steve, and Patricia, could present matters of policy to the Steering Committee for approval. Eric talked about his role with *The Watermark* and his hopes for a continuing newsletter of substance. It was suggested that non-members of ALHHS be again solicited for content, as they were in the 1990s, once we are clear on what we are looking for. We agreed that we need to include reports from meetings, minutes, announcements, news items, etc., and that we could also include book reviews, scholarly reports, and longer articles, but that we are not trying to create a full-fledged peer-reviewed journal, just a newsletter that is vibrant and reflective of the broad scope of professional projects, plans, and concerns of our membership.

Eric said that he felt confident in his editorial and layout skills, but did not feel competent to judge the quality of the full range of subject matter in submissions to *The Watermark*. He therefore requested the Steering Committee to give him permission to add members to the Publications Committee, up to a total of six, to help him evaluate content and to serve as a sort of editorial board. The Steering Committee granted this request, provided that Eric's choices are approved by the President.

Katharine Donahue gave a report on the Web site. The domain name was just renewed. There are and will be photos of the annual meeting. Kathy would like to have more images, and talked about the technology, like

Red Dot, behind such images. She would like to see more of *The Watermark* on the Web. We still have not come to terms with possibly having the directory online, but the group seems less reluctant about that than in the past. We would like to have a list of our book dealers on our Web site, with links to any sites they might have. We should add more to the site regarding HIPAA and its relationship to archivists and curators.

## New Business

It was mentioned that when an officer retires, such as Jodi Koste, pertinent material should be put in the ALHHS archives. We do not currently have an archivist appointed, since Charles Greifenstein moved from the College of Physicians. A motion was made that Lilla approach Richard Fraser (currently at the College) and ask if he would oversee our archives. The motion was carried. We would also need to make sure that Richard then received enough copies of *The Watermark*.

It was proposed that the Secretary/Treasurer position be changed to Recording Secretary and Secretary/Treasurer. The Recording Secretary would take care of the minutes during the annual Steering Committee and business meetings. The Secretary/Treasurer would continue to take care of membership and monetary matters. A motion was made to discuss with the membership. The motion was approved. We adjourned at 5:55 pm.

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## Program and Business Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 7, 2005, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Lister Hill Library, 9:07 a.m.

Following a continental breakfast (and a scary delay on the caffeinated beverages), the Local Arrangements chairs, Michael Flannery and Tim Pennycuff, made program announcements and welcomed ALHHS as well as Medical Museums Association, (MeMA) participants. Mike and Tim also thanked Jodi Koste and Joan Echtenkamp Klein for last evening's wonderful commemorative slide presentation highlighting our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Scott Plutchak, Director of the Lister Hill Library, welcomed us. We had a joint meeting with MeMA for the first half of our program.

Judith A. Robins from the Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology, our Program Chair, introduced Douglas Bacon, M.D., from the Mayo Clinic. Dr. Bacon gave an informative talk entitled, "How to Get Clinicians Through the Archives Door," which touched on such practical matters as how to engage clinicians in historical research (have essay contests or lecture series) and offered practical insights on how clinicians "operate" (they do not understand restrictive curatorial policies, etc.). The "take home message" is to inform them about your mission and environment, accommodate them within reason, understand their time constraints, get past their egos, and strike up professional friendships that will be useful to both the clinician and the archivist/librarian.

Tom Horrocks from the Countway Library of Medicine asked us to reflect for a moment and remember our colleague, Gretchen Worden, who died last year. He reminded us of the enormous impact she had on the popularity and vibrancy of the Mütter Museum, on the profession, and on many of our personal lives. Later in the meeting, the membership approved a donation of \$500.00 to be made in Gretchen's memory to the Gretchen Worden Fund for Museum Excellence.

Next up were Stephen Greenberg and Lillian Kozuma from NLM, offering an update on the electronic version of *IndexCat*. Launched online last spring, the developers are continuously looking at ways to improve the database. Among other upgrades, there will be a new logo, a new home page, a new section about *IndexCat*, an enhanced FAQ, the ability to print multiple records, and an e-mail feature. They reported on

future features which include displaying the total number of hits per search (though retrieval still remains at 1000), a journal title abbreviations list (yeah!), and the ability to sort searches. They also reported on a study that looks at the overlap, redundancy, or originality of the citations in *Index Medicus* as compared to those in *Index Catalogue*. The Bibliographic Services Division, which handles OldMedline, is working on including the *Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus*.

After a break, Steve Novak of Columbia University Medical Center and Nancy McCall of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions gave an update on HIPAA's Privacy Rule as it affects patient records, photographs, medical research documents, etc. They had given testimony to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics, Subcommittee on Privacy and Confidentiality, January 11, 2005, about the impact of the HIPAA Privacy Rule as it applied to access and utilization of archives. The common theme was that each institution seems to be accommodating HIPAA in its own way. Whether they are a covered entity or an uncovered entity impacts on how much attention they pay to allowing access to primary material. Novak and McCall reported that the Committee seemed interested in our position, but seemed relatively unaware that access to patient records, clinical material, etc., might impact historians, librarians, or researchers in general. The full testimony is available at <[www.library.vcu.edu/tm/speccoll/hipaa.html](http://www.library.vcu.edu/tm/speccoll/hipaa.html)>.

One of the particularly prickly items is access to photographic archives, especially in a hospital setting, as they are so often used in promotion and in historical renderings. Also, archives like those at Johns Hopkins are particularly frustrated by the bureaucratic requirements for registration for general reference services and the length of time it takes to screen the requested documents. The concern of archivists like Steve and Nancy is acute, as Steve so eloquently said: "All this leads me to fear that the primary documents needed to write the history of health care and the biomedical sciences in the United States may come to an end in the late 1990s. It would be paradoxical and unfortunate if a law that was designed in part to shed light on the workings of our health care systems makes it impossible for the scholars of the future to do just that." The membership suggested that we make ourselves more vocal and visible in educating this Committee, perhaps even looking into permanently having an archivist on the Subcommittee.

Our Immediate Past President, Jodi Koste, asked the membership to consider our organization and its future directions in an exercise called "Before We Turn 40: Ideas, Discussion, and Future Directions for ALHHS." We broke up into small groups of about seven or eight, and had about fifteen minutes to brainstorm about what we thought the group should be attending to. The individual discussions were illuminating and provided much food for thought. Each table then sent a representative to the podium to summarize each group's ideas. Many great minds thought of similar initiatives. Following is a list of areas and ideas mentioned. A more thorough rendering may appear in a future *Watermark*.

1. More content of ALHHS related concerns and solutions on the Web site.
2. More public relations, marketing, and soliciting of new members.
3. Programmatic attention to the reality of capturing the electronic record in our institutions.
4. Provide hands-on workshops at our annual meeting.
5. Strengthen relationship with American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM).
6. Survey the membership about programs, needs, if we are meeting their needs, etc.
7. Educate the broader professional world about what we do and why they need us.
8. Continue HIPAA work.
9. Consider a scholarship for new members to attend annual meeting.
10. Become a vocal advocate for our collections, our specialty, our concerns with preservation, conservation, and access.

There were many more nuances, all worth pursuing throughout the year and at our annual meetings.

We broke for lunch and at the end of lunch, in the interest of time, Lilla began the Business Meeting.

### **Business Meeting: Old Business**

The motion was passed to accept our 2004 minutes.

Suzanne Porter gave the report on the elections for officers. After reviewing the dynamics of the election Suzanne announced the new President-Elect, Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, the new Secretary-Treasurer, Patricia Gallagher, and the two new Members-at-Large, Christine Ruggere and Russell Johnson.

Micaela gave the Treasurer's Report. Elaine Challacombe gave the Auditor's Report. Paul Theerman announced that there were no awards given this year. There were no nominations for the Holloway Award. Katharine Donahue gave a report on the Web site, suggesting that there might be some design changes and reiterating the enhancements mentioned at the Steering Committee meeting yesterday. Discussion about having an online directory was short. It was suggested that we simply create a PDF version of the directory and link to it. Security might be afforded by only being able to look up a name that the searcher has keyed into a search box. In other words, the names would not be available online in an alphabetical, scrollable version. One would only be able to look up a known entity. Ed Morman thought we should table the discussion for now. That motion was approved.

Eric Luft gave a report on *The Watermark*, reviewing the publication problems of 2004. Eric took over the editorship in early December of 2004 and put *The Watermark* back on schedule. He thanked former Editor Linda Lohr *in absentia* for her work with the newsletter. He spoke of his vision for *The Watermark*, to return it to the high quality and timely production that characterized it in the 1990s, and especially to resume publishing longer and more substantial papers. He thanked Stephen Greenberg for his excellent work in his new role as Book Review Editor and announced that Steve, Patricia Gallagher, Katharine Donahue, John Erlen, Heidi Butler, and himself would now constitute the Publications Committee, which was just enlarged to help solicit and evaluate contributions from the membership, to ensure quality content, and the like. During the discussion that followed, Jodi, Joan, and Lilli Sentz were praised for their past expertise with *The Watermark*.

## New Business

President Lilla Vekerdy opened discussion about contested elections [cf. Steering Committee minutes above on pp. 46-47]. The membership had decided last year that they preferred *uncontested* elections. This year's election ended up being contested in part because members responded to the call for nominations on ALHHS-L by replying to the whole list, rather than to Suzanne, thereby creating a sort of contest among the nominees. Some members suggested that the list reply default be reviewed. Should it be to the list or only to the person originating the e-mail? It was decided, by a

vote of 16 to 7, that the default remain to the list, and members would have to monitor themselves regarding appropriate replies. [Editor's note: A subsequent online poll of the membership on ALHHS-L confirmed this result: 18 to 12.]

Following much discussion, with various views about contested and non-contested elections, the membership voted for retaining non-contested elections, whereby these steps occur:

1. The President appoints a Nominating Committee. The Steering Committee can offer names.
2. The Nominating Committee polls the membership for candidates for open positions.
3. The Nominating Committee reviews the names, chooses ONE candidate for each open position.
4. A single-slate election occurs. ONE candidate for each open position is put on a paper ballot, mailed to the membership, and the candidates are confirmed with a return vote.
5. At this juncture members can write in candidates. Presumably, if a write-in candidate has more votes than a slated candidate, the write-in candidate would win.

The Steering Committee proposed that there be a By-Laws change, in which the Secretary/Treasurer position would be changed to Recording Secretary and Secretary/Treasurer. The Recording Secretary would write the minutes for the annual Steering Committee and business meetings. The Secretary/Treasurer would continue to take care of membership and monetary matters. A motion was made and approved.

We adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Micaela Sullivan-Fowler  
Secretary/Treasurer



*Bruce J. Ramer*

E-mail: [bjramer@mindspring.com](mailto:bjramer@mindspring.com)

## To Honor Gretchen Worden

April 12, 2005

Dear Friend;

As you may know, Gretchen Worden devoted her entire professional life to the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. For 30 years, Gretchen worked tirelessly to bring the treasures of the College's Mütter Museum to



the widest possible audience. Serving as the museum's foremost advocate was the only job she ever had. From a modest annual visitation, museum attendance has grown significantly. This year, over 65,000 visitors are expected. Gretchen introduced hundreds of young people to the mysteries of medicine and science. The College is committed to continuing the mission

that Gretchen started and today, we are pleased to announce the creation of a memorial initiative, **The Gretchen Worden Fund for Museum Excellence**. The fund is a salute and memorial to her work and her vision for the Mütter Museum as a fully accredited and excellent museum, honored by the College and the world.

Help us to fulfill Gretchen Worden's vision for the museum's future. Your gift will assist us in achieving the fund's three essential goals: **(1.)** The creation of a **Gretchen Worden Gallery** that will significantly increase the museum's exhibition space. This gallery will serve as a tribute to Gretchen's legacy while making even more of the museum's unique treasures accessible to physicians, researchers and the public alike. **(2.)** This new gallery will be complemented by a **portrait** of Gretchen Worden. We will find an artist capable of capturing Gretchen's powerful intelligence, tart humor and great appetite for life. **(3.) Accreditation** of The Mütter Museum by the American Association of Museums, making it easier to attract financial support from foundations, corporations and other potential funders.

Please take just a moment now to make a gift to the Worden Fund. Your support will keep Gretchen's

memory alive while allowing us to complete her life's work. Please make checks payable to: The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Att: Gretchen Worden Fund or for more information please call Laurie Grant, at (215) 563-3737 Ext. 215.

Warm Regards,

Arthur K. Asbury, MD  
President  
College of Physicians of Philadelphia

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## News from the History of Medicine Division

### Conference on Women's Health

"Women Physicians, Women's Politics, Women's Health" a symposium organized by the Exhibition Program in conjunction with its current exhibition, "Changing the Face of Medicine," was held on March 10 and 11. In six sessions, twenty-four scholars presented papers on subjects such as the history of the women's health movement, images of women physicians, and race/class/gender issues in medicine.

## Online Syllabus Archives

Educators Janet Tighe of the University of Pennsylvania, Susan Lederer of Yale University, Marcos Cueto of the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, and Robert Martensen of Tulane University visited the History of Medicine Division to study its audiovisual resources in medical history. Subsequent to their visits, they have added syllabi to HMD's *Online Syllabus Archives*: <[www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/collections/digital/syllabi/](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/collections/digital/syllabi/)>.

## Historical Anatomies on the Web

Clorion's "Anatomical sketchbook," a stunning but peculiar manuscript prepared by a pseudonymous artist in New Harmony, Indiana, in 1830 was added to *Historical Anatomies on the Web*: <[www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/historicalanatomies/home.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/historicalanatomies/home.html)>.

## More Finding Aids on the Web

The Archives and Modern Manuscripts Program added the following finding aids to the HMD Web site: <[www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/manuscripts/alpha.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/manuscripts/alpha.html)>:

MS C 547: Edward J. Hinman Medical Informatics Collection. MS C 548: Murray J. Shear papers.

MS C 550: Edward D. Freis papers,

MS Film 35: Ross A. McFarland collection in aerospace medicine and human-factors engineering

## Recent Acquisitions

### *Books and Early Manuscripts:*

Rhazes (865-ca. 925), *Tibb Almansorem*, an early seventeenth-century Arabic manuscript of his systematic treatise of medicine. Divided into ten sections, it covers physiology, pathology, surgery, fevers, and poisons.

A printed Tibetan work, *Rgyud-bzhi*, comprised of four treatises forming the basis of Tibetan medicine. Although its origins are unclear, many attribute its compilation to Yuthog Yontan Gonpo the Younger in the twelfth century. The texts are divided into sections including, anatomy, diseases of women, childhood diseases, and old age. This eighteenth-century edition was printed from woodblocks.

### *Archives and Modern Manuscripts:*

The Sol Spiegelman papers (245 linear feet). Spiegelman won the Lasker Award in Basic Research

for 1974, "for his contributions to molecular biology, including techniques of molecular hybridization and the first synthesis of an infectious nucleic acid." He shared the award with Ludvik Gross, whose papers are also at NLM (MS C 504).

### *Prints and Photographs:*

10,000 postcards depicting public health issues, donated by William G. Helfand. They range from the late nineteenth century to the present.

## Recent Lectures

March 16: David Cantor of the National Cancer Institute and NLM, "*Challenge: Science against Cancer* (1950): Cancer Research and the Public Education Movie in the 1950s."

March 28: Bernadine Healy, M.D., gave the Women's History Month Lecture, "The Human Genome and the Women's Health Initiative."

April 20: Luke Demaitre, Ph.D., "Searching for Pre-modern Medicine in European Archives: New Light from Leprosy." Demaitre pursued advanced studies in history in Belgium and the United States. His interest in medical history developed in his subsequent academic career in this country. Since 1997, as visiting Professor of History at the University of Virginia, he has specialized in medieval and premodern medicine. Besides shorter publications, he currently has three book-length works in press. This paper is a report on some of his ongoing research.

May 11: Jeffrey S. Reznick, Ph.D., "From Grievous Damage to Serene Convalescence: Hospital Magazine and Experiences of Recovery among British Servicemen during the Great War." Reznick is Senior Curator at the National Museum of Health and Medicine at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and former Executive Director and Senior Research Fellow of the Orthotic and Prosthetic Assistance Fund (OPAF), where he played a broad contemporary role on behalf of persons with physical and related disabilities. As a historian, he has been exploring the early nature of those specialties, particularly in the context of World War I. This presentation expands a chapter in his recent book on the developments during and after World War I in Great Britain.

June 9: Dan O'Connor, Graduate Fellow at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, gave the NLM Gay/Lesbi-

an/Bisexual/Transgendered Awareness Month Lecture, "April and Renée: the Supermodel, the Tennis Player, and the Discourses of Trans/Sexual Difference." In January 1970, a British court declared the marriage between male-to-female (MTF) transsexual supermodel April Ashley and aristocrat Arthur Corbett to be null and void. Seven years later, a New York court ordered that MTF athlete Renée Richards be permitted to play on the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) circuit. O'Connor explored the differences between these two definitions of sex, asking what role medical expertise played in the courts' decisions, and looking to the sharp divide between a British ruling of sex stasis and an American ruling of sex change.

June 15: Ralph W. Moss, Ph.D., "Albert Szent-Györgyi and Cancer Alternatives." The Hungarian-American scientist Albert Szent-Györgyi (1893-1986) was one of the leading biochemists of the twentieth century. He discovered vitamin C, for which he won the 1937 Nobel Prize, and helped to unravel the citric acid cycle. But he is also remembered for his eventful life — fit, as he put it, for a spy novel. This basic scientist managed to become embroiled in controversies until the end of his life. Moss, the author of a biography of Szent-Györgyi and editor of *The Moss Reports*, a Web site and newsletter on alternative cancer therapies and referrals, worked with Szent-Györgyi for nearly seven years until the latter's death in 1986.

June 30: Peter Dans, M.D., "Hollywood and Women Doctors," presented in conjunction with NLM's current exhibit, "Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians." Dans, an internist with special interests in infectious diseases, geriatrics, quality assurance, and ethics, gave a kaleidoscopic tour of Hollywood's portrayals of women doctors, using film clips from 1933's *Mary Stevens M.D.* through 2002's *Blood Work*. An independent consultant on issues related to geriatric polypharmacy and drug safety in the elderly, he is the author or co-author of more than 100 scientific articles, book chapters, and other contributions to the medical literature. Since 1990, he has written movie reviews as "The Physician at the Movies" for *Pharos*, the quarterly publication of the Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society. His book, *Doctors in the Movies: Boil the Water and Just Say Aah!*, about how doctors have been portrayed in movies from the 1930s through the 1990s, was published in 2000.

Phil Teigen <pteigen@nih.gov>

## Book Reviews

Bill Hayes. *Five Quarts: A Personal and Natural History of Blood*. New York: Ballantine Books, 2005. 290 pages, illustrated, 22 cm. \$23.95 cloth, \$14.95 paperback. ISBN 0345456874 cloth, 0345456882 paperback.

Blood is what every human has in common, yet most of us are squeamish about the topic. Everyone knows a little bit of the blood story: how the veins carry blood to the heart and the aorta away from it; how blood turns red when it mixes with oxygen; how blood carries viruses and medicines. Hayes is a skilled storyteller. In *Five Quarts* he takes the reader through a journey of a different sort: from the scientific discoveries in pathology to the enormous amount of blood testing completed by today's medical profession — all while he is coming to accept how his partner contracted the AIDS virus.

This reviewer found herself easily absorbed by a subject that she did not expect to be so revealing. For Hayes, "blood also marks the divide between [him] and [his] partner of fourteen years" (p. 8). The author's



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prose is fluid; each chapter moves from anecdote into a notable scientific discovery and back to the personal. For example, in the chapter "Blood Drive," Hayes provides the reader with blood facts then segues into a detailed account of the functions and processes of a Californian blood bank and research laboratory, and back to more facts on blood which affect us all. In this journey, Hayes is attempting to understand how blood testing is done on his partner's blood. In "Blood Sister" he explores the mysterious effects of his five sisters' respective menstrual cycles, and he found himself feeling on the outside, both emotionally and anthropologically. From this, Hayes moves into a discussion of anthropologist James Frazer and his studies of social exclusion, which then progresses into a discussion of religious thinking about menstruation. In "Vital Staining" Hayes patiently explains Paul Ehrlich's discoveries of white cells, a key to understanding the formation of diseases. Last, this reviewer found the history, science, and mechanics of blood discoveries engaging, including Galen and the four fluids, Christopher Wren and syringe development, William Harvey's discovery of blood circulation, van Leeuwenhoek's mechanical advances with the microscope, and even the crude uses of leeching.

Hayes held this reviewer's attention with his thoughts and reflections on the AIDS epidemic which are interspersed throughout the narrative. In the chapter "Blood Drive," he carefully explains the politics of AIDS, as well as some of the ironies. For example, He writes that under current laws he could donate his body organ(s) to his AIDS infected partner but is unable to donate his blood. He asks, "why is there such inconsistency between what's required of gay donors and other groups?" and questions how, under the current laws, straight men and women who have had multiple partners are allowed to donate their blood (pp 230-231). He points out the discrimination in blood donations, and concludes his discussion of AIDS by mentioning some imperfections in the laws.

Hayes' research is not scholarly, and may not be suitable for an academic research library. Much of his bibliography consists of popular non-fiction literature on the various topics covered in the narrative. However, it is an absorbing read for general readers. He manages not to bog himself down in the minutiae; just enough details and facts to carry the story. Once finished, one will have a sense of the author's emotional understanding of blood and its diseases.

Anne Rothfeld  
History of Medicine Division  
National Library of Medicine

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Stephanie P. Browner. *Profound Science and Elegant Literature: Imagining Doctors in Nineteenth-Century America*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005. 304 pages, illustrated, 24 cm. \$49.95 cloth. ISBN 0-8122-3825-7.

In her introduction, Browner states that her book will examine how “fiction reveals some of the terms on which medicine’s professional prestige was eventually accepted and how the doctor was often envisioned as a stabilizing force in a rapidly expanding nation ...” Using American writers, such as Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Sarah Orne Jewett, and Charles Chestnutt, she examines novels and short stories which focus on medicine, to discuss changing attitudes in the view of the doctor (or health practitioner) and in the nineteenth-century view of “the body.”

The reader would quite naturally assume that much time would be spent discussing the transition to a new view of the medical doctor. The reader of this book, however, will be surprised to find that very little time is spent in examining this phenomenon, which certainly deserves much careful study and is certainly implied by the title as the central focus of the volume! Instead, the discussion evolves to another area altogether.

As a whole, the book’s focus really becomes more centered on the conception of the body, an argument originated by Michel Foucault. Browner sees the body as “a discrete object that was not an extension of self, but rather a material possession owned by the self.” Again and again, her chapters veer from discussions of the physician to analyses of the body of the patient. While the analyses are valid and interesting, they do not match the stated thesis of the book as an examination of the rise of the medicine as a profession. It also should be noted that Browner’s discussion does not always focus on the physician, but in some instances, will look instead at other health practitioners, significantly lay healers, and, as in the extensive discussion in Chapter 1, the career of a dentist.

Chapter 1, “Professional Medicine, Democracy, and the Modern Body: The Discovery of Etherization”, an interesting and well researched examination of the correspondences relating to W.T.G. Morton’s discovery of the use of ether as an anesthetic, seems somewhat out of place in an analysis of literature. While the dialogue certainly speaks to the rise of professionalism, the texts which are examined certainly cannot be

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classed as literature. Included are letters and addresses by physicians and Morton. Another odd, though interesting inclusion is an examination, in Chapter 5, of painting with medical themes, notably *The Gross Clinic* and *The Agnew Clinic* by Thomas Eakins. Some black-and-white illustrations of the images are included in the volume. There is, however, no table of plates. Since the paintings are referred to earlier in the book, it is somewhat frustrating to the reader who might like to refer to the images in question.

Browner’s discussion is especially effective in the chapters where she discusses gender and race. She selects interesting, rarely discussed works. Her discussion of race and the African-American physician is particularly effective and interesting. Using the works of Charles Chestnutt, Rebecca Harding Davis, Katherine Davis, Chapman Tillman, and William Dean Howells, Browner examines both the question of the marginalized body — of particular interest, persons of mixed race and their position in white-dominated society, and the role of the African-American physician in the same white world. Not surprisingly, most of the works that fall into this category are post-Civil War; several of the stories deal with former slaves, placed into the position of having to care for — heal — a former white master. The position of the mulatto is also a topic of interest to fiction writers of the time — individuals who can

"pass" for white, faced with the choice of living in a white world, but by doing so, surrendering all contact with their families. In one of the novels, the physician is placed in the role of villain — revealing the racial background of a young woman to her fiancé, who is repelled at the notion of marrying a person of color.

The arguments put forth in the book are interesting and thought-provoking; however, the author has done herself and her readers a disservice in downplaying the book's focus on representations of the nineteenth-century body. This work would be a useful tool for scholars concerned with gender and race in American literature, but many of them will not think to look here.

Patricia E. Gallagher  
New York Academy of Medicine Library

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## Good Listening

### The University of Pittsburgh's Remembering Polio Symposium

The second day of the program, April 12, 2005, commemorated the discovery of the Salk polio vaccine. David L. Heymann, M.D., who currently heads the World Health Organization's polio eradication efforts, was the keynote speaker. His talk was "Eradicating Polio — The Politics of a Global Public Health Initiative."

Other highlights of the day included:

Welcoming remarks by James V. Maher, Ph.D., Senior Vice Chancellor and Provost, University

of Pittsburgh, and Bernard D. Goldstein, M.D., Dean, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health.

A Moment of Remembrance for Polio Victims. Re-enactment of the April 12, 1955, announcement that the polio vaccine was safe, effective, and ready for widespread use (with John Troan, former reporter and editor for *The Pittsburgh Press*). Peter Salk, M.D., "Memoirs of My Father: Personal Reflections on Jonas Salk."

Panel presentation on "Fighting Polio One Child at a Time," featuring Robert A. Keegan on "The Logistics of Global Polio Eradication," Heidi J. Larson, Ph.D., on "Polio Eradication in an Era of Distrust: Social Dimensions of Vaccination Campaigns," and Louis Piconi on "Person-to-Person: The Role of Volunteer Organizations in the Polio Eradication Effort."

William Gruber, M.D., on "The Pharmaceutical Industry's Perspective on Vaccine Development: From Polio to Bioterrorism."

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H., on "Disease as a Weapon: A New Challenge for the 21st Century."

The dedication of a historical marker honoring the Salk team.



## “From Generation to Reproduction”

The Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Cambridge hosted "From Generation to Reproduction," a new seminar series funded by the Wellcome Trust, during the Easter term of 2005:

May 3: Katharine Park, Ph.D. (Harvard University)  
"The Mother's Part: Opening the Uterus in Renaissance Italy."

May 10: Martin Richards, Ph.D. (Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Cambridge), "Perfecting People at the Oneida community (1867-79): Justifications from Animal and Plant Breeding and Theology."

May 17: Barbara Duden, Ph.D. (Institut für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie, Universität Hannover) "'Pop-Genes': How Gene-Talk Uproots Perception and Mobilizes to Manage Risks."

May 24: Helga Satzinger, Dr.Rer.Nat. (Wellcome Trust Centre at University College London) "The Chromosomal Theory of Heredity and the Problem of Gender Equality."

## NIH Seminar by Edwin Becker

On May 24, 2005, Edwin Becker, Ph.D., Scientist Emeritus of the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestion, and Kidney Diseases, presented a seminar entitled "Spins, Magnets and Chemicals: The Evolution of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance and MRI" at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Natcher Conference Center.

This seminar accompanied a new exhibit from the NIH Stetten Museum of a Varian A-60 NMR spectrophotometer, an instrument which provided a crucial early step in NMR research at the NIH. The exhibit explains how the NMR functions by tracing the energy that nuclei release when they flip within a magnetic field, each atom producing an identifiable spectral distribution. The exhibit also explores the development of two offshoots of NMR, MRI (magnetic resonance imaging), and the study of large proteins in addition to small molecules. The exhibit is located in the lobby outside the cafeteria of the Natcher Building.

This presentation was sponsored by the NIH Biomedical Research History Interest Group (BRHIG). For more information about upcoming BRHIG seminars, please visit <[www.nih.gov/sigs/brhig](http://www.nih.gov/sigs/brhig)>.

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## The College of Physicians of Philadelphia Medical History Programming, 2005-2006

The schedule of evening lectures as of June 16, 2005, is:

July 27, 2005: The First Sadoff Library Lecture on Legal Medicine and Forensic Psychiatry: Joseph Bloom, M.D., Dean of the Drexel University School of Medicine, "A Twenty-Eight-Year Follow-Up of Individuals Found Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity in Oregon."

September 22, 2005: The Section on Medical History presents Samuel Roberts, Ph.D., of the Department of History and the Center for the History and Ethics of Public Health, Columbia University, who will discuss his research on health and disease among African Americans in the nineteenth century.

September 29, 2005: The Alma Dea Morani Renaissance Award and Lecture, co-sponsored with the Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine: Audrey E. Evans, M.D., Professor Emerita at the University of Pennsylvania and Associate Director of Pediatric Urology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, "Health Care for Children, Then and Now."

October 18, 2005: The Section on Medicine and the Arts Salon: Emanuel E. Garcia, M.D., psychoanalyst, and consulting psychiatrist at the Curtis Institute of Music, "The Last Days of Frederick Delius: Devotion, Collaboration and the Salvation of Music."

October 20, 2005: The Section on Medical History presents the 2005 Samuel X Radbill Lecture: Margaret Humphreys, M.D., Ph.D., Department of History, Duke University, "Immensely Human: The Health of Black Soldiers in the American Civil War."

November 10, 2005: Section on Medical History: speaker and topic to be announced.

March 16, 2006: The Section on Medical History presents the 2006 Kate Hurd Mead Lecture, co-sponsored with the Drexel University College of Medicine: Joan Lynaugh, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N., Professor Emerita of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania and former Director of the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, will discuss her historical research on education and the health professions.

April 11, 2006: The Wood Institute for the History of Medicine presents "The Medical World of

Benjamin Franklin" with funding from the Barra Foundation: Lisa Rosner, Ph.D., Department of History, Stockton College, "Poor Richard's Recipes: Franklin and Popular Medicine in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Philadelphia."

May 11, 2006: The second "Medical World of Benjamin Franklin" talk: Toby Gelfand, Ph.D., Hannah Chair of the History of Medicine, University of Ottawa, "Franklin and the Medical World of Paris."

June 6, 2006: The third "Medical World of Benjamin Franklin" talk: Andrew Cunningham, Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow in History of Medicine, University of Cambridge, "A Number of Friends: Benjamin Franklin and the Medical Reformers of London."

For further information, contact Margaret Patton at 215-563-373, ext. 305, or [mpatton@collphyphil.org](mailto:mpatton@collphyphil.org).

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## Collections, Exhibits, and Access

### "Dear Doctor": Online Exhibit Gives New Voice to Patients from the Past

Before the Internet and the telephone, patients could only reach their doctors through written letters. Thanks

to a collaborative effort between the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, and the University of Virginia Library's digital teams, the voices of patients from 19<sup>th</sup>-century Virginia are no longer lost in the past.

The new online exhibit from the Moore Library, titled "Patients' Voices in Early 19<sup>th</sup>-century Virginia," presents 700 letters from the patients of Dr. James Carmichael, a Scottish physician whose practice was based in Fredericksburg, Virginia. The collection of correspondence, written between 1819 and 1830 and held in the new Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, gives a unique view into the physician-patient relationship.

The letters can be seen online in their original, handwritten form, each side-by-side with a typed version. The 19<sup>th</sup>-century patients' terms for complaints, diseases, and treatments have been matched to their 21<sup>st</sup>-century equivalents. The letters are not only descriptive but show familiar emotions that we would recognize today. A father in 1820 pleads for his sick daughter, "Pray send out Dr. Carmichael to me immediately — as I consider her to be in great danger. Delay not a moment for her life and my happiness depend on it."

"There are only a few collections of letters to antebellum southern physicians," said Todd L. Savitt, Professor of Medical Humanities at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and noted author on Southern medical history. "They're invaluable because they give us insight into the physician-patient relationship, and tell us about the role of physicians in the society where they practiced. UVa has given us a wonderful gift in making the Carmichael collection so readily available."

Teams from the Moore Library's Historical Collections and Services and the UVa Library's E-Text Center and Rare Materials Digital Services worked to bring the historic letters to life on the Web.

"One of the more challenging aspects of the project faced by the Historical Collections team was to read and transcribe the handwriting of nearly 700 different individuals, who possessed varying degrees of literacy," project director Joan Echtenkamp Klein said.

In addition to the correspondence, the Web site also includes a photo essay of the landscape of the Carmichael letters, newspaper articles, book excerpts, court

records, maps, Work Projects Administration (WPA) reports, and extensive listings of "Who's Who" and "Places Mentioned" in the letters, with links to related sources of information. For more information, please contact Joan at 434-924-0052 or jre@virginia.edu.

The exhibit Web site is <carmichael.lib.virginia.edu>.



## News from Baker-Cederberg

Philip G. Maples, Director of the Baker-Cederberg Museum and Archives, Rochester, New York, announces three online exhibits:

"Fighting Poliomyelitis 1915-1955," compiled by

Teresa K. Lehr, M.A., Department of English,  
SUNY Brockport <[www.viahealth.org/body\\_rochester.cfm?id=1865](http://www.viahealth.org/body_rochester.cfm?id=1865)>.

"The Legacy of 179 Lake Avenue: Lee Private Hospital," compiled by Robert Dickson. <[www.viahealth.org/body\\_rochester.cfm?id=1958](http://www.viahealth.org/body_rochester.cfm?id=1958)>.

"Outstanding Rochester Nurses" <[www.viahealth.org/body\\_rochester.cfm?id=1971](http://www.viahealth.org/body_rochester.cfm?id=1971)>, which salutes local nurses in appreciation of their early accomplishments in the modernization of nursing.



## The Civil War, Yellow Fever, and the Armstrong Collection

In June the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Historical Collections received 100 autograph letters dating from 1863 to 1878, written by Memphis physician William James Armstrong. The letters document Dr. Armstrong's personal observations to his wife during the two worst yellow fever epidemics in Memphis of 1873 and 1878. The early letters also contain some observations on events of the Civil War. Dr. Armstrong was a member of the Howard Association of volunteers, who stayed in Memphis to treat victims of this disease. We owe the existence of these letters to the fact that Dr. Armstrong sent his wife, Louisa "Lula" C. Armstrong, and family to live in the country in relative safety. As the 1878 epidemic was drawing to a close Dr. Armstrong contracted yellow fever and died.



Photo used by permission of Ruth Hill Fulton McAllister.

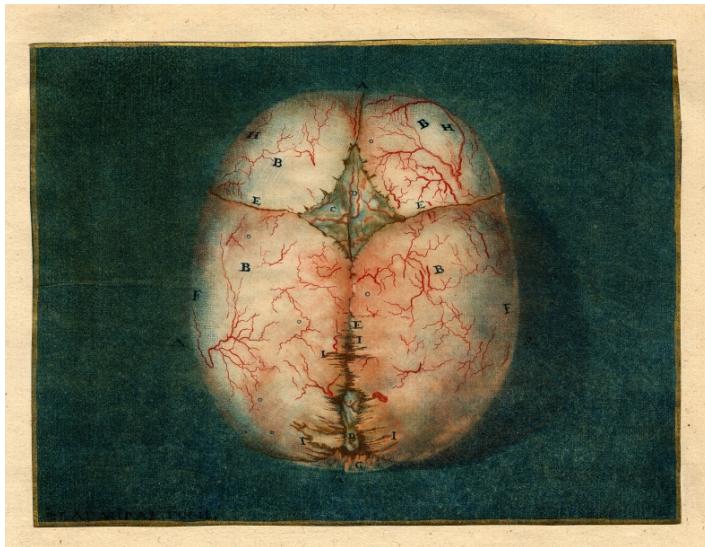
The letters were given to Dr. Simon Bruesch in 1986 to hold and they were formally donated to the University of Tennessee by the doctor's grandson and namesake, Col. William J. Armstrong, who currently lives in Eads, Tennessee. The letters will be contained in the William J. Armstrong Collection of letters and memorabilia. In the future an online exhibit will be created to publish the letters, a transcription of their contents, and biographical information about Dr. Armstrong.



## Ladmiral Digitized

The John Martin Rare Book Room in the Hardin Library for the Health Sciences at the University of Iowa has added another item to its high resolution digital offerings of early colored medical illustrations. The latest addition is a collection of six mezzotints by Jan Ladmiral (1698-1773) which constitutes the first series of full-color anatomical copperplates ever

made. The collection is available at: <[www.lib.uiowa.edu/hardin/rbr/Imaging/albums/ladmiral/](http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/hardin/rbr/Imaging/albums/ladmiral/)>.



## News from the Lloyd Library and Museum

### Summer 2005 Exhibit: "Pharmacy Education in the Nineteenth Century"

On display July 1 through September 30, "Pharmacy Education in the Nineteenth Century" explores the development of pharmacy education in the United States. The exhibit focuses on local history, highlighting the founding of the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy in 1850 and its subsequent growth. Now part of the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, it was the sixth college of pharmacy in the United States and the first west of the Alleghenies. Other local history incorporated includes John Uri Lloyd's career in pharmacy from apprentice to respected professional, as well as his establishment of the Lloyd Library and Museum. The display features resources from the Lloyd Library's book and archival collections. Nineteenth-century pharmacy texts and college catalogs, photographs, rare books, and artifacts all combine to tell the story of pharmacy education in America.

The exhibit coincided with the annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), held this year in Cincinnati during the week of July 11. The Lloyd hosted a session of the AACP Library Special Interest Group on July 12. Mike Flannery, Associate Director for Historical Collections, Lister Hill Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham,

ham, former Lloyd Library Director, and former adjunct faculty member of UC College of Pharmacy, presented "Botanicals as Dietary Supplements: Changing Perspectives and Challenging Resources." Dennis Worthen, Lloyd Scholar, adjunct faculty member of UC College of Pharmacy, and former director of the Lloyd Library, provided a brief introduction to the Library, its history, and resources. Maggie Heran, Director of the Lloyd, served as host and moderator.

### New Online Exhibit: "Plates of Fungi"

The Lloyd's new online exhibit, , "Plates of Fungi: Paintings by J. Augustus Knapp Commissioned by Curtis Gates Lloyd," is a digital version of select items displayed in the Spring 2005 exhibit. It is an interesting example of art in service to science. It also presents for the first time works of Knapp (1853-1938), a contemporary of artists Frank Duvenek and Henry Farney, who studied at the McMicken School of Design in Cincinnati.

In the archives of the Lloyd Library and Museum are the papers of Curtis Gates Lloyd, youngest of the Lloyd Brothers, the founders of the Lloyd Library and Museum. There among the correspondence, financial records, writings, and photographs is a large portfolio containing watercolors of mushrooms. A typewritten sheet of paper inside reads: "Fungi: 40 Plates Hand-Painted by John Augustus Knapp Commissioned by Curtis Gates Lloyd." With that exception, the archives remain silent about these exquisite, and scientifically accurate, works of art.

The exhibit includes twelve of the 40 Knapp paintings and brief biographical information about Curtis Gates Lloyd and Knapp. The twelve paintings were selected by Nicholas P. Money, Professor of Botany at Miami University, who also wrote the accompanying labels. Maggie Heran contributed the biographies of Knapp and Lloyd. The online exhibit was a collaboration between Professor Money and Heather Newkirk, Lloyd staff member. It can be found at <[www.lloydlibrary.org/knapp/index.html](http://www.lloydlibrary.org/knapp/index.html)>.

For more information about the Lloyd's exhibits please visit <[www.lloydlibrary.org/news/exhibits/](http://www.lloydlibrary.org/news/exhibits/)>. From October 1 through December 31, 2005, the exhibit will be "Plants in Print: The French Connection." For a full list of exhibits, see "Mining the Lloyd" at <[www.lloydlibrary.org/mining/exhibits.html](http://www.lloydlibrary.org/mining/exhibits.html)>

## Miscellanea

### From the American College of Surgeons

Susan Rishworth reports: "In May 2005 we launched a link on the ACS website for 'Highlight of the Month' from the ACS Archives. See it at <www.facs.org> 'Table of Contents' and 'Archives.'

"Also, I was pleased to be awarded a Foundation Fellowship from the Foundation for the History of Medicine in cooperation with the Francis C. Wood Institute for the History of Medicine at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia for the 2005-2006 academic year, to pursue work on Verina Morton Jones, M.D."



### The 2005 Krumbhaar Award

The Francis C. Wood Institute for the History of Medicine and the Section on Medical History of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia announce the winners of the 2005 Krumbhaar Award, a medical history essay contest for medical students attending school in Eastern Pennsylvania or New Jersey. Essays must be based on new original research in primary sources.

Edward Bell Krumbhaar, M.D. (1882-1966) was a distinguished pathologist and cardiac physiologist, as well as one of Philadelphia's leading historians of medicine. A founder of both the Section on Medical History of the College of Physicians and the American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM), Krumbhaar also served as President of the College and of the AAHM. He was a polyglot, publishing English translations of works originally in French, German, and Italian. Besides his own work, he is perhaps best remembered by historians for his revised translation of Arturo Castiglioni's *History of Medicine* (1941).

In February 1957, the Section on Medical History of the College of Physicians awarded the first Krumbhaar Award. The Wood Institute for the History of Medicine and the Section on Medical History revived this award in 2004.

The winner of the 2005 Krumbhaar Award is Adam Lipworth, a third-year medical student at the University of Pennsylvania, for his essay, "The Waksman Campaign: Dr. Selman Waksman's Struggle to Preserve His Heroic Image through a Bitter Credit Dispute over Streptomycin." The award committee was particularly impressed with Mr. Lipworth's use of primary sources, including oral history interviews.

The committee awarded an honorable mention to Casey Halpern, also of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, for his essay, "Rhetoric and Medicine in Antiquity." Committee members agreed that Mr. Halpern's essay did a fine job of tying together elements of philosophy and medical thinking in the ancient Mediterranean.

Edward T. Morman, M.S.L.S., Ph.D.  
College Librarian and Director  
Francis C. Wood Institute for the History of Medicine  
The College of Physicians of Philadelphia



### Quiz Question

When and where was the world's first card catalog?  
(Answer below on page 63.)



### Pisano Travel Grants

The John J. Pisano Travel Grants are administered through the Office of NIH History at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the purpose of encouraging historical research relating to the NIH intramural programs. The grants are named in honor of Dr. John J. Pisano (1929-1985), a distinguished biochemist and former chief of the Section on Physiological Chemistry, Laboratory of Chemistry, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. The program is funded by the John J. Pisano Memorial Fund of the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences, Inc., a non-federal organization associated with the NIH.

The Pisano grants are awarded for travel costs to Bethesda, Maryland, to conduct historical research

relating to the NIH intramural programs. One or two grants each year are available at the level of \$1,500 for United States residents and \$2,000 for recipients who reside outside the United States. Recipients are required to acknowledge the award in any publication resulting from the research supported and to furnish the Office of NIH History with one copy of any article or book resulting from the support.

Additional details and application instructions may be found at <[history.nih.gov/01Docs/grants/4010.htm](http://history.nih.gov/01Docs/grants/4010.htm)>. Questions may be addressed to Dr. Victoria A. Harden, Director, Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum at <[victoria.harden@nih.gov](mailto:victoria.harden@nih.gov)> or 301-496-6610.



## A Few Words from the Editor

I have frequently been asked about deadlines for *The Watermark*. There are none. Why? Because they are not grounded in reality and they do not work. News and content tends to arrive in flurries, when timely. Sometimes I might receive ten or twenty pages of submissions in a few weeks, or I might not receive anything at all for a few months except lovely e-mails from Micaela.

At the April meeting in Birmingham I promised the membership that I would keep *The Watermark* on schedule with at least twenty pages per issue. To me that means that as soon as I get twenty pages together, *The Watermark* goes to press. Sometimes that process of gathering and editing takes three or four months, sometimes only one or two. If it looks like it will be in the four months or longer range, I send out reminders either (preferably) on ALHHS-L or (rarely) to specific individuals to send me stuff to publish. These occasional calls always generate enough response, and are much more reliable than Procrustean deadlines.



## Wellcome Trust Core Grant Extended

The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at University College London <[www.ucl.ac.uk/histmed/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/histmed/)> is pleased to announce that the Governors

of the Wellcome Trust recently voted to extend its core grant for another five years, beginning October 2005. Their decision was based on the unanimous support of the review committee that conducted a site visit in April.

The general aims of the Centre are: to contribute to new knowledge in the history of medicine; to assist those with related interests to acquire and use historical sources, whether they are interested in non-academic history of medicine, medical or scientific topics that have historical components, or any other areas of common interest; and to work more generally with the larger community in stimulating an interest in the subject area. To accomplish this, the staff of the Centre not only conduct their own research, supervise Ph.D. students and sponsor post-doctoral fellows, but also devote time and resources to supporting symposia, workshops, and other academic events, the work of historians of medicine conducting research in London, and interactions with the media and public for enhancing awareness of the history of medicine and health. We are also pleased to do the above in collaboration with appropriate partners.

The academic work of the Centre continues to develop an historical understanding of the Western medical tradition, and to extend this work by exploring its historical interactions with other kinds of medical systems in Eurasia.

Prof. Harold J. Cook, Director



## Reynolds Associates Awards

The Reynolds Associates, in conjunction with the Historical Collections (HC) unit of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), is pleased to announce the availability of short-term awards of up to \$1,000 to individual researchers studying one or more aspects of the history of the health sciences during the 2006 calendar year.

Intended to support research using the HC unit as a historical resource, the fellowship requires the onsite use of material from at least one of the unit's three components, the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, Reynolds Historical Library, or the UAB Archives.

For additional details on the fellowship and the Historical Collections department at UAB, please refer to the fellowship Web site at <[www.uab.edu/reynolds/fellowship.htm](http://www.uab.edu/reynolds/fellowship.htm)> or the HC Web site at <[www.uab.edu/historical](http://www.uab.edu/historical)>.

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## A Bittersweet Departure

Dear friends,

I want to inform you that I will be leaving the Countway Library to assume the position of Associate Librarian of the Houghton Library for Collections, effective 19 September. I probably will depart from the Countway sometime around Labor Day so I can take a long overdue vacation. While I have thoroughly enjoyed my almost eight years at the Countway, I could not pass up the opportunity to help lead one of this country's leading special collections libraries.

I will miss seeing all of you at ALHHS/AAHM meetings and all of the fun shared at Wednesday night

dinners, pool games, tomato banquets, and sundry ports in the storm.

With best wishes and warmest regards,  
Tom

Thomas A. Horrocks, Ph.D.

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Answer to Quiz Question: In 1780 at the Austrian Imperial Court Library, now the Austrian National Library. The court librarian at the time was Gottfried van Swieten, son of former court librarian Gerard van Swieten, Empress Maria Theresia's personal physician.

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*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 Eric Luft, preferably as e-mail attachments.

Information about membership in ALHHS is available from the Secretary/Treasurer: Patricia E. Gallagher, Special Projects Coordinator, New York Academy of Medicine Library, 1216 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10029-5293. <pgallagher@nyam.org>. Phone: 212-822-7324. Fax: 212-423-0266.

Submissions for the ALHHS Web site <[www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/biomed/alhhs/](http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/biomed/alhhs/)> should be sent to the Chair of the Web Site Committee: Katharine E.S. Donahue, Head, History and Special Collections, Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library, UCLA, 12-077 CHS, Box 951798, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1798. <kdonahue@library.ucla.edu>. Phone: 310-825-6940. Fax: 310-825-0465.