



# Newsletter

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

Issue No.99

July 2012

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What's the AAHM done for you lately?

For me, that's an easy question to answer. At the Baltimore meeting, the Association made me its President, a privilege I am honored to have. But for other AAHM members, the answer to that question may not be so obvious. At a time when we all have many demands on our time and money, we have to ask, is the Association doing enough for its members, new as well as old? What does the AAHM need to do more of in order to grow and prosper? As the AAHM approaches its 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2015, this seems a good time to reassess our goals so that we can stay strong at a time of economic challenge.

For long standing members like me, the decision to recommit to the AAHM every year is an easy one. I have been coming to meetings for over forty years. Like many young scholars, I came because my advisor, also a long time member, encouraged me to do so. I graduated from attendee to presenter, although I note it took me several tries before I got on the program. Like those marks on the wall that we make to measure our child's height, my CV attests to the importance of the AAHM in my professional career. I went from presenter to Program Chair (1993 and 2001), from Council member to President, with a Welch Medal and a Garrison lecture along the way. On a more personal level, I mark my years in the AAHM with memories of some extraordinary people, including Harvey Young, Stan Jackson, Jack Pressman, and Harry Marks. I am of a small and select (!) group who met our spouses at an AAHM meeting.

But most of all, I keep coming back to the AAHM because it provides me a community that I do not find elsewhere: of MDs, PhDs, MLSSs, RNs, and MPHs who like me think that the history of medicine and health are the most fascinating topics imaginable. Like me, they think it is vitally important to keep the history of medicine relevant to a wide range of audiences, including clinician historians, medical students, librarians, archivists, college undergraduates, and professional historians. So while I'm a card carrying member of other academic organizations, the AAHM is my true home and one that I am proud to serve now as President.

We have many challenges to face. We live in a culture where historical memories are short and encouraged to stay that way, especially when it comes to medicine and health. At the time I joined the AAHM back in the late 1970s, our field had a presence in academic medical schools that has eroded in the intervening decades. Fighting for attention in any curriculum, much less that of medical and nursing schools is incredibly hard. As we learned

at the last meeting, qualifying for CME and CNE credit, a vital service to our physician and nurse members, requires relentless vigilance and hard work.

That's the challenge. The good news is that the AAHM has an extraordinarily devoted core of members who give freely of their time to keep it strong and vibrant. As an officer, I am immensely grateful to every one of you. And I want to make sure that twenty years from now, when I am doddering about at the annual meeting, I see about my the faces of a younger generation that feels as strongly about the AAHM as I do.

How do we make that happen? In recent years, the very able officers who have led the AAHM have been hard at work on critical pieces of what we need to stay strong. They have set in motion a fundraising campaign and the hiring of a part time Executive Secretary. In addition to those initiatives, the current officers are looking at ways to increase our membership, to expand our services other than running the annual meeting, to update our website, and to take the AAHM into the digital age.

So I ask you again, what's the AAHM done for you lately? If you have thoughts about what we might do that would make it easier for you to send that membership fee in every year, send them to me at [nancy.tomes@stonybrook.edu](mailto:nancy.tomes@stonybrook.edu). I look forward to hearing from you.

*Nancy Tomes,  
AAHM President*

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The *AAHM NewsLetter* is edited by Jodi Koste and Joan Echtenkamp Klein and published three times a year by the American Association for the History of Medicine, Inc. It is distributed free of charge to the membership.

#### AAHM Officers

Nancy Tomes, Ph.D., President  
Margaret Humphreys, M.D., Ph.D., Vice President  
Jodi L. Koste, M.A., Secretary  
Margaret Marsh, Ph.D., Treasurer  
John Eyler, Ph.D., Immediate Past President

The Association's website is [www.histmed.org](http://www.histmed.org)

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News items of 250 words or less are invited and may be submitted by e-mail, fax, or regular mail. Deadlines: 1 October, 15 February, and 1 July.

### **AAHM NEWS**

The association held its 85<sup>th</sup> annual meeting from 26-29 April 2012 in Baltimore, MD. Over 400 historians, clinicians, librarians, curators, and graduate students attended paper sessions, lunch workshops, the Garrison Lecture, delivered by Susan Reverby, and the Presidential Address presented by John Eyler. Meeting participants were treated to three receptions hosted by the Institute for the History of Medicine including Thursday night at the Marriott Inner Harbor, Friday evening following the Garrison Lecture at the Welch Library, and Saturday before the awards banquet held at the Engineer's Club/Garrett Jacobs Mansion. For those interested in viewing the activities at the 85<sup>th</sup> annual meeting please visit: [www.flickr.com/photos/aahistoryofmedicine/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/aahistoryofmedicine/)

## 2012 Award Recipients

The AAHM is pleased to report the following awards announced at the awards banquet held on Saturday, 28 April at the Engineer's Club/Garrett Jacobs Mansion. Images of award winners and presenters may be seen online at [www.flickr.com/photos/aahistoryofmedicine/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/aahistoryofmedicine/).

Congratulations to all.

**The William Osler Medal** winner for the best essay in the history of medicine written by a medical student was Joy Liu of Brown University for her essay entitled "'Herself a Mother': Sarah Lucretia Robb and Motherly Medicine in the Late Nineteenth Century."

**The Richard Shryock Medal** winner for the best essay on medical history by a graduate student was Evan Ragland, Ph.D. candidate at Indiana University for his paper, "Making Trials in Sixteenth Century Medicine: On the History of Experimentation from Early Modern Medicine to Science."

**The Garrison Lecturer** for 2013 will be Randall Packard of Johns Hopkins University.

**The William H. Welch Medal** winner for the best book in the history of medicine in the last five years was Gregg Mitman for his book *Breathing Space: How Allergies Shape Our Lives and Landscapes* (Yale University Press, 2007).

The winner of the **Jack D. Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Career Development Award in 20<sup>th</sup> Century History of Medicine or Science** was Jeanine Shinozuka for her project, "Biotic Borderlands: Constituting Race in Transnational Public Health and Agriculture, 1880-1945."

**The J. Worth Estes Prize** for a published essay of outstanding merit in the history of pharmacology was given to Justin Barr for "A Short History of Dapsone, or an Alternative Model of Drug

Development," *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* 66 (2010): 425-67.

The Association's **Lifetime Achievement Award** was given to Robert J. T. Joy who began his medical history career as the winner of the Osler Medal in 1954.

## AAHM 2015

The AAHM Council has voted to accept the invitation of Yale University to hold the 2015 annual meeting of the Association in New Haven, CT.

## AAHM Call for Papers

The American Association for the History of Medicine invites submissions in any area of medical/health care history for its 86th annual meeting, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 16 - 19 May 2013. The Association welcomes submissions on the history of health and healing; history of medical ideas, practices, and institutions; and histories of illness, disease, and public health. Submissions pertaining to all eras and regions of the world are welcome, with papers and panels relating to global health particularly encouraged. Abstracts must be received by **21 September 2011**.

Program Co-Chairs Susan Reverby and Anne-Emanuelle Birn are also encouraging proposals for the regular paper time slots for round-tables that assess the "state of the field" in various sub-fields of the history of medicine.

The AAHM uses an online abstract submissions system which can be accessed along with detailed information on the website: [histmed.org/aahm\\_papers.htm](http://histmed.org/aahm_papers.htm). E-mailed or faxed proposals cannot be accepted. Please address specific questions to the Program Committee Co-chairs: Susan Reverby, [sreverby@wellesley.edu](mailto:sreverby@wellesley.edu) and Anne-Emanuelle Birn, [ae.birn@utoronto.ca](mailto:ae.birn@utoronto.ca).

### Call for Nominations, AAHM Awards, 2012

All awards will be presented at the AAHM annual meeting in Atlanta, GA, on 18 May 2013. Additional information may be found on the AAHM website: [histmed.org/awards.htm](http://histmed.org/awards.htm).

**Osler Medal Essay Contest, 2013.** The William Osler Medal is awarded annually for the best unpublished essay on a medical historical topic written by a student enrolled in a school of medicine or osteopathy in the United States or Canada. First awarded in 1942, the medal commemorates Sir William Osler, who stimulated an interest in the humanities among medical students and physicians.

Complete contest information may be viewed at [histmed.org/osler\\_medal.htm](http://histmed.org/osler_medal.htm) or obtained from the Osler Medal Committee Chair: James Hanley, University of Winnipeg, [j.hanley@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:j.hanley@uwinnipeg.ca). Entries must be postmarked or submitted electronically by e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) to Dr. Hanley by **15 January 2013**.

**Shryock Medal Essay Contest, 2013.** Graduate students in the United States and Canada are invited to enter the Shryock Medal Essay Contest. The medal honors Richard Harrison Shryock (1893-1972), a pioneer among historians interested in the history of medicine. The award is given for an outstanding, unpublished essay by a single author on any topic in the history of medicine. For additional information see the website: [histmed.org/shryock\\_medal.htm](http://histmed.org/shryock_medal.htm) or contact Shryock Medal Committee Chair Wendy Kline, [wendy.kline@uc.edu](mailto:wendy.kline@uc.edu). Essays must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) no later than **15 January 2013**.

**J. Worth Estes Prize, 2013.** This award was established in honor of J. Worth Estes, M.D., in recognition of his many invaluable contributions to the American Association for the History of Medicine and to scholarship in the history of medicine. The award is made annually for the best

published paper in the history of pharmacology during the previous two years, whether appearing in a journal or a book collection of papers. For the current award, candidate papers will be those published in 2011 and 2012. For additional information see the website: [histmed.org/estes\\_prize.htm](http://histmed.org/estes_prize.htm). Nominations should be directed to the Chair of the Committee, Greg Higby, [higby@ahip.org](mailto:higby@ahip.org), and must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) no later than **14 January 2013**.

**Jack D. Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Development Award in 20<sup>th</sup> Century History of Medicine or Science, 2013.** This award honors Jack D. Pressman, Ph.D., a distinguished historian of medicine and Associate Professor of the History of the Health Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco at the time of his early and unexpected death in June 1997. The award and stipend of \$1,000 is given yearly for outstanding work in twentieth-century history of medicine or medical biomedical sciences, as demonstrated by the completion of the Ph.D. and a proposal to turn the dissertation into a publishable monograph. The Ph.D. must have been completed and the degree granted within the last five years (i.e., 2008-2012). Additional details available on the website at [histmed.org/pressman\\_award.htm](http://histmed.org/pressman_award.htm). The application, including all supporting materials, must be postmarked by **31 December 2012** and addressed to the Chair of the Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Committee, David Herzberg, Ph.D., Department of History, 546 Park Hall, North Campus, University at Buffalo (SUNY), Buffalo, NY 14260; e-mail: [herzberg@buffalo.edu](mailto:herzberg@buffalo.edu).

**Lifetime Achievement Award, 2013.** This AAHM award was established in 1988; the first recipients were Saul Jarcho, Lester King, and Owsei Temkin. The award is given annually to a member of the Association who usually but not necessarily always has retired from regular institutional affiliation or practice, with a distinguished record of support for the history of medicine over many years and who has made continuing scholarly contributions of a



distinguished nature. Judith Leavitt, Chair of the Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, welcomes nominations for the award, at the following e-mail address: [jwleavit@wisc.edu](mailto:jwleavit@wisc.edu). Deadline for nominations: **30 September 2012**. Electronic submissions are preferred.

**William H. Welch Medal, 2013.** The William H. Welch Award is awarded to one or more authors of a book (excluding edited volumes) of outstanding scholarly merit in the field of medical history published during the five calendar years preceding the award. Hence, books published during 2007-2011 inclusively will be eligible. The award is named in honor of a major American figure in the history of medicine and public health, who was also one of the first faculty members at the Johns Hopkins medical school. The Medal was first presented in 1950 to Henry Sigerist. A list of subsequently awarded authors and their scholarship can be found at: [histmed.org/welch\\_past.htm](http://histmed.org/welch_past.htm).

The Chair of the 2012-2013 Welch Medal Committee, Barron Lerner welcomes suggestions of books to consider for the award. Publishers nominating a book must send a copy to each member of the committee. To nominate a book and to obtain mailing addresses of all committee members, contact via phone or e-mail: Barron H. Lerner, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Medicine, New York University School of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, 550 First Avenue, Old Bellevue, 6th Floor, Room CD652, New York, NY 10016; [Barron.lerner@nyumc.org](mailto:Barron.lerner@nyumc.org). Deadline for nominations: **15 October 2012**. Previously nominated eligible books must be re-nominated; they will not be considered automatically.

### Student Section

This year, we had another record turnout at the 6th annual Graduate/Professional Student lunch, with new and old members combining to give us more than 60 attendees. We are grateful to Christine Ruggere for helping coordinate the lunch and for the Institute of the History of Medicine at Johns

Hopkins University for subsidizing it. The ever increasing attendance reinforces the vibrancy of the student community within the AAHM, and we very much look forward to re-convening next year in Atlanta!

## AAHM Committees, 2012-2013

### Program Committee:

Susan Reverby, Co-Chair  
Anne-Emanuelle Birn, Co-Chair  
Sanjoy Bhattacharya  
Arlene Keeling  
Samuel Roberts  
Merlin Chowkwanyun  
David Jones

### Committee on Annual Meetings:

(three-year staggered terms)

Theodore Brown, Chair (through 2013)  
George Weisz (2013)  
Elizabeth Fee (2013)  
Mindy Schwartz (2014)  
Martin Pernick (2014)  
Sarah Tracy (2015)

### Committee on Education and Outreach:

(three-year staggered terms)

Laura Hirshbein, Chair (through 2013)  
Richard Kahn (2013)  
Justin Barr (2014)  
Kristen Ehrenberger (2014)  
Carla Keirns (2014)  
Karen Ross (2015)  
Heather Prescott (2015)

### Nominations Committee:

(through 2014)

Martin Pernick, Chair  
W. Bruce Fye  
Arleen Tuchman

### Estes Prize Committee:

Greg Higby, Chair  
Scott Podolsky  
Hilary Smith

**Pressman Burroughs Wellcome Prize:**

David Herzberg, Chair (through 2013)  
 Susan Lawrence (2014)  
 Dennis Doyle (2015)

**Welch Medal Committee:**

Barron Lerner, Chair  
 Marta Hanson  
 Ann Carmichael  
 David Barnes  
 Charles Rosenberg

**Osler Medal Committee:**

James Hanley, Chair  
 Dawna Gilchrist  
 Stephen Inrig  
 William Summers  
 Andrea Tone

**Shryock Medal Committee:**

Wendy Kline, Chair  
 Dea Boster  
 Jeremy Greene  
 Chris Hamlin  
 Monica Green

**Lifetime Achievement Award:**

Judith Walzer Leavitt, Chair  
 Vicky Hardin  
 Chris Crenner

**Garrison Lecture Committee:**

Joel Howell, Chair  
 Howard Brody  
 Sarah Tracy

**Publications Committee:**

(six-year terms)

Janet Golden, Chair (through 2013)  
 Scott Podolsky (2016)  
 Arleen Tuchman (2017)

**Committee on Finance:**

(three-year, staggered terms)

William Rothstein, Chair (through 2014)  
 Alan Kraut (2013)  
 Jennifer Gunn (2015)

**AAHM Newsletter:**

Jodi Koste  
 Joan Klein

**Delegate to the International Society for the History of Medicine:** (two-year terms)

Andrew Nadell— Delegate  
 Ynez O'Neill—Alternate

**Delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies:**

Caroline Hannaway

**Ad Hoc Committee on Travel Grants:**

(three-year, staggered terms)

Anthony Kovac, Chair (through 2012)  
 Deborah Doroshow (2013)  
 Lynda Payne (2014)

**Ad Hoc Committee on Student Affairs**

Justin Barr, Chair  
 Walt Schalick (Faculty Advisor)

**NEWS OF MEMBERS**

**Martin Duke** announces the publication by Gordian Knot Books, 2011, and distribution by the University Press of New England, of a collection of essays that he edited entitled *Reflections on Medicine: Essays by Robert U. Massey, M.D.* The late Dr. Massey had been a dean of a medical school, medical historian, editor of two medical journals, and for many years a member of the AAHM. The book received a 2012 Will Solimene Award for Excellence from the New England Chapter of the American Medical Writers Association.

**Warwick Anderson** and **Richard C. Keller** (with **Deborah Jenson**) have edited *Unconscious Dominions: Psychoanalysis, Colonial Trauma, and Postcolonial Sovereignties* (Duke University Press, 2011).

**Ellen More**, **Elizabeth Fee**, and **Manon Parry** were awarded the 2012 Best Print Publication award from the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) for their edited

collection *Women Physicians and the Cultures of Medicine* (Johns Hopkins, 2009).

**Joseph Byrne** has authored *Encyclopedia of the Black Death*, published by ABC-CLIO Press. Its 300 entries constitute the first A–Z encyclopedia to cover the second plague pandemic, balancing medical history and technical matters with historical, cultural, social, and political factors and effects in Europe and the Islamic world from 1347–1770.

**Michael A. Osborne** was honored as a co-recipient of the Berendel Foundation's Cantemir Prize for intercultural humanism for an article co-authored with Richard S. Fogarty entitled "Eugenics in France and the Colonies," in P. Levine and A. Brashford, eds. *Oxford Handbook of the History of Eugenics* (2010). He was also awarded a Visiting Director of Research post at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales for 2011-2012, and is currently Senior Fellow at the Aix-Marseille Institute for Advanced Study, 2011-2013.

The Wellcome Library is delighted to announce the appointment of **Dr Elma Brenner** as Specialist in Medieval and Early Modern Medicine.

## AWARDS

The History of Dermatology Society announces that papers are now being called for the thirty-third annual **Samuel J. Zakon Award in the History of Dermatology**. This competition is open to historians and dermatologists in practice or training. Manuscripts should be submitted to Mark C. Valentine, M.D., Chairman, Samuel J. Zakon Award Committee, 3327 Colby Avenue, Everett, WA 98201 by November 1, 2012. Essays may relate to any aspect of the history of dermatology not heretofore published. For further information, e-mail: mark1105@aol.com. The Zakon Award is given in memory of Doctor Samuel J. Zakon, outstanding Chicago dermatologist and historian.

## ARCHIVES/LIBRARIES/MUSEUMS

**The Medical Heritage Library** is pleased to announce a new content contributor. The Gerstein Science Information Centre at the University of Toronto is Canada's pre-eminent academic health and science library. The Gerstein has extensive holdings dating back to the 18th century in medicine and related health sciences and serves students, researchers, and faculty in the fields of dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and related sciences. The Gerstein collection totals 1,031,144 physical items as of May 2011. The Gerstein has already comprehensively scanned its pre-1924 collection, both serials and monographs, and made them available through the Internet Archive. By joining the MHL as a content contributor, the Gerstein will be adding over 5,500 items to the project's collection.

The inclusion of the Gerstein volumes in the MHL will add hundreds of new historical titles in general medicine, surgery, disease, pharmacy, health, anatomy, obstetrics, psychology, and hygiene among other topics. Titles include works by S. Weir Mitchell and the Royal College of Surgeons as well as journal publications such as the *Canada Medical Journal* and the *Bulletin of the American Lung Association* and publications on the spine and the value of spas.

The Medical Heritage Library also acknowledges the new content contributor, WellcomeFilm, an online digital collection of moving images on 20th-century healthcare and medicine. WellcomeFilm is owned and was digitized by the Wellcome Library in London. The project chronicles the history of medicine over the last 100 years and has been freely available in Internet Archive since 2010. The earliest footage dates from the era of founder Sir Henry Wellcome (1853-1936), who was an American-born pharmaceutical magnate. Included is rare footage from Gebel (or Jebel) Moya in the Sudan 1912-13 showing scenes of everyday life, archaeological digging, communal sports, and recreation. Later decades are represented by films featuring

breakthrough medicine such as surgical techniques and drug treatments.

Contact the MHL: [medicalheritage@gmail.com](mailto:medicalheritage@gmail.com); [www.medicalheritage.org](http://www.medicalheritage.org); Internet Archive Collection: [www.archive.org/details/medicalheritagelibrary](http://www.archive.org/details/medicalheritagelibrary); Twitter: #!/MedicalHeritage.

**The Mount Sinai Archives** would like to announce the opening of the Records of the Chairman of the Department of Community Medicine from 1968-1990, Kurt W. Deuschle, MD. This collection - almost 33 feet of records spread over 43 boxes - reflects a pioneering career in community medicine that spanned from 1948 until his death in 2003. Dr. Deuschle's career had three main sections: his early years working on a Navajo reservation in the American Southwest, his years as Chairman of the first Department of Community Medicine in this country at the University of Kentucky, and his years as head of Mount Sinai's Department. This collection centers around the Mount Sinai years.

The Community Medicine (Deuschle) collection has 11 series: Correspondence Series, 1960-1996; General Alphabetical Series I, 1956-2000; Reprint Series, 1953-1995; Subcommittee on Ethical Research Practices Series (SERP), 1979-1988; Personal Series, 1966-1995; International Series, 1951-1989; General Alphabetical Series II, 1954-1995; Foundations Series, 1968-1995; Faculty Series, 1948-1993; References Series, 1968-1994; and Slides, 1952-1981.

This collection would be of interest to anyone studying the fields of Community and Preventive Medicine or healthcare in New York, particularly in East Harlem. Deuschle also took study trips abroad and there are files here on visits to Turkey (1962-65, 1984), China (1978, 1986), Lagos, Nigeria (1977), and other places.

The finding aid will be posted to the Archives' website soon: [library.mssm.edu/services/archives/archives\\_collections/index.shtml](http://library.mssm.edu/services/archives/archives_collections/index.shtml). If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Niss at [Barbara.Niss@mssm.edu](mailto:Barbara.Niss@mssm.edu).

**The Municipal Archives of New York** has recently digitized and made available on the web almost 9,000 images including 442 from the Department of Public Charities and Hospitals. To review the images go to: [nycma.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet/RECORDSPHOTOUNITARC~20~20](http://nycma.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet/RECORDSPHOTOUNITARC~20~20).

### **News from the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine**

HMD recently added to its online **oral history** content 130 interviews, over 6,800 pages of transcripts and 50 hours of audio content along with 5 new special collections. These additions more than double the number of interviews, and increases by 50% the number of pages of transcripts available. The content may be accessed here as part of the growing electronic texts of the Library's Archives and Modern Manuscripts Program.

As with the initial release, the materials include digital editions of transcripts, and audio content when feasible. Users can browse the interviews by title, interviewee name, and subject. Full-text searching is available across all collections, across each collection, and within each transcript. The five collections added are:

Albert Szent-Györgyi Oral History Collection—conducted with colleagues and students of the scientist who was awarded the Nobel Prize for his work on the citric acid cycle. These interviews were conducted as part of development of his site on the Library's Profiles in Science project.

James W. Papez Oral History Collection—a collection of oral history interviews conducted by Dr. Kenneth E. Livingston during 1981 and 1982, to document the contributions of Cornell neuroanatomist James W. Papez.

NIMH Oral History Collection—interviews with 42 individuals significant to the foundation and early history of the National Institute of Mental Health, conducted by Dr. Eli A. Rubinstein between the years 1975 and 1978.



National Information Center on Health Services Research Oral Histories, with content created through a collaboration between the Library's History of Medicine Division and NICHSR.

Stephen Strickland NIH Extramural Program Oral History Collection—conducted by Strickland as part of his project to write a history of the extramural programs at NIH.

NLM has acquired a collection of over 200 books and periodical issues related to the literary achievements of the prominent American Civil War surgeon **S. Weir Mitchell** (1829-1914).

Mitchell obtained his medical degree in 1850 from Jefferson Medical College and spent the following year in Paris, where he studied with noted physiologist Claude Bernard, who invented the concept of blind experiments to ensure objectivity in scientific observations. During the American Civil War, Mitchell was a surgeon at Turner's Lane Hospital in Philadelphia, where he treated many patients with nerve injuries. This work eventually led to his interest in neurology and neuropsychiatry. After the war, Mitchell returned to private practice. In 1870, he was appointed physician-in-charge of the Department for Nervous Diseases of the Philadelphia Orthopedic Hospital, where he would treat patients for over 40 years.

An accomplished surgeon, Mitchell published over 100 scientific articles and monographs during his lifetime. His medical background and experience enabled him to write historical fiction with much psychological insight. He published more than 25 literary titles, many of which are represented in NLM's new acquisition, alongside dozens of volumes signed by Mitchell and various editions which document changes in styles and tastes of American publishing of the period.

Among Mitchell's literary works now held by the NLM is an 1864 monograph entitled *The Children's Hour*, which he co-wrote with poet Elizabeth Wister Stevenson to aid the Sanitary Commission Fair in

Philadelphia. Three years later, he published *The Wonderful Stories of Fuz-Buz the Fly and Mother Grabem the Spider*, another book for children. His first literary work for adults, which was printed in the July 1866 issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*, was "The Case of George Dedlow," a fictional account of a Civil War soldier who had lost all of his limbs. *Hill of Stones*, his first book of poems, was published in 1883, and his first full-length novel, *In War Time*, followed in 1885. *Hugh Wynne, Free Quaker, Sometime Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel on the Staff of His Excellency General Washington*, an historical novel set during the Revolutionary War, is the best known and most successful of his novels. However, *The Adventures of François, Foundling, Thief, Juggler, and Fencing-Master, During the French Revolution* was the author's favorite of his own books, according to scholars of the period.

The S. Weir Mitchell collection of the NLM will be digitized over the next two years as part of NLM's "Medicine in the Americas," a digital library project that makes freely available original works demonstrating the evolution of American medicine from colonial frontier outposts of the 17th century to research hospitals of the 20th century.

The History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) announces the public release of the papers of John B. Calhoun (1917-1995), a noted behavioral sciences researcher at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), a component of the National Institutes of Health. From the 1950s through the 1980s, Dr. Calhoun investigated the behavior of mice and rats under conditions of extreme crowding. He, as well as other social scientists, policy makers, and pundits, readily extrapolated his work to comment on human crowding in urban settings, just as the country was undergoing a massive redevelopment of its urban structures. His conclusions found a ready audience among those who saw world overpopulation as not just a problem of resources, but of social cohesion.

In a side note, Calhoun's work with rats inspired the 1971 children's book, *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of*

*NIMH*, by Robert C. O'Brien, which was adapted into a 1982 animated film, *The Secret of NIMH*.

John B. Calhoun was born in Elkton, TN, in 1917. After undergraduate education at the University of Virginia (B.A., 1939), and graduate work in zoology at Northwestern University (Ph.D., 1943), he did post-graduate work and teaching at Emory University, the Ohio State University, and the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, studying the ecology and sociology of Norway rats. After further work at the Jackson Memorial Laboratory, Bar Harbor, ME, and the Army Graduate School at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, in 1954 he joined the Section on Perception in the Laboratory of Psychology at the NIMH. He spent the rest of his career there.

Studying rats under conditions of hyper-crowding, Calhoun observed what he termed the "behavioral sink." This referred to aberrant behaviors such as hyperaggression, failure to breed normally, infant cannibalism, increased mortality, and aberrant sexual patterns in such overcrowded situations. His general conclusion was that "space itself is a necessity." In the 1960s, his research switched into the field of evolution and behavior, which informs the current field of evolutionary psychology. In 1963 he formed and was the first director of NIMH's Unit for Research on Behavioral Systems (URBS) in the Laboratory of Brain Evolution and Behavior (LBEB). He there observed the effects of crowding on a mouse community that was allowed to overpopulate, seeing a complete end to reproduction, with the entire population dying off. Calhoun coined the term "universal autism" to describe the group's behavior at that final point, as they became incapable of the social interaction essential for survival. In the mid-1970s, his research moved in turn to the cultural modes that rats acquired to counteract the effects of overcrowding.

Calhoun retired from NIMH in 1984, but continued to work on his research results until his death on 7 September 1995.

The collection, "MS C 586," comprises 196 linear feet of materials, with records predominantly from 1954 to 1986. It was donated in 1997, as a gift from Edith Calhoun, his widow. In addition to laboratory notebooks and drafts of articles, the collection is particularly noteworthy for the films, videocassettes, and audio reels and cassettes that Calhoun used to document his experiments.

The Calhoun papers form one of the almost 600 described research collections of the Library's Modern Manuscripts program. They are one of an extensive number in human development and behavioral sciences; others include the papers of Bertram Brown, Wayne Dennis, Lawrence K. Frank, Paul MacLean, Lois Meek, Lois B. Murphy, and Herbert Rowell Stolz, as well as the records of the Society for Research in Child Development, and the American Child Guidance Clinic and Child Psychiatry Movement Interview Collection.

The National Library of Medicine, the world's largest medical library and a component of the National Institutes of Health, has produced a new digital collection, *Tropical Disease Motion Pictures* [collections.nlm.nih.gov/muradora/browse.action?parentId.nlm%3ADREPTDM-coll&type=1](https://collections.nlm.nih.gov/muradora/browse.action?parentId.nlm%3ADREPTDM-coll&type=1). The collection comprises 46 titles from the Library's collections that illustrate the battle against tropical disease. The materials range from research documentaries, interviews with noted scientists, and public health education campaigns, to films shot on location in regions beset by cholera, dengue fever, and yellow fever, demonstrating local and international efforts to curb their devastating impact. Produced between 1927 and 2007, the online content is a component of the Library's Digital Collections [collections.nlm.nih.gov](https://collections.nlm.nih.gov).

In the globalized economies of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, Western societies came up sharply against the constraints imposed by tropical diseases. Cholera, malaria, yellow fever, and other widespread diseases factored into the logic of empire: in war, commerce, and industry. Ambitious plans for global development were often thwarted by the burden of disease, with its attendant

conditions of poverty, hunger, and loss of productivity. Through this collection, the western response to tropical disease is vividly shown, in multi-pronged campaigns of research, eradication, control, and education.

Among the titles presented are:

- *Cholera Can Be Conquered* (1946), produced by the U.S. Navy. This film outlines the work of United States Navy Epidemiology Unit No. 50, which was sent to Calcutta, India, in early 1945 to determine the value of antibiotic therapy in the treatment of cholera.
- *Tropical Disease Investigations in Africa* (1957), produced by the Laboratory of Tropical Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), with the cooperation of the health departments of Liberia, Belgian Congo, Mozambique, Kenya, and the Liberian Institute of the American Foundation for Tropical Medicine. The films show the etiology and treatment of four major tropical diseases in Africa: malaria, onchocerciasis (river blindness), trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), and schistosomiasis (snail fever).
- *Lucy Graves Taliaferro* (1980), from the Workers in Tropical Medicine series, produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine and the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. Dr. Taliaferro describes decades of collaboration with her husband, William Taliaferro, in the field of parasitology, studying the reactions that occur between parasites and hosts.

As these films show, history is much more than the written word. The collection delivers powerful visual statements about the social, clinical, and political nature of tropical disease.

In addition to being found in the Library's Digital Collections, the audiovisuals may be accessed through the Library's online *Guide to Tropical Disease Motion Pictures* [www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/collections/films/tropicalguide/index.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/collections/films/tropicalguide/index.html) [www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/collections/films/tropicalguide/index.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/collections/films/tropicalguide/index.html).

That guide provides a short historical introduction and a bibliography to this collection. In addition, the Library's online catalog, LocatorPlus [locatorplus.gov/](http://locatorplus.gov/), provides access to the films by means of the catalog records of individual titles. Most of the audiovisuals in this digital collection are in the public domain, free of copyright, and may be used for any purpose; a few are used by permission of the copyright holder, from whom permission must similarly be obtained for any further use beyond "fair use." In addition, not all the Library's motion pictures in tropical disease and medicine will be digitized—even if listed in the *Guide*—as they remain under copyright protection.

### News from the Wellcome Library

The Wellcome Library is delighted to announce the appointment of **Dr Elma Brenner** as Specialist in Medieval and Early Modern Medicine. Dr Brenner joins the Library from the History and Philosophy of Science department at the University of Cambridge and the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies at the University of Toronto, where her research interests included the history of leprosy, mental illness, hospitals and charity in medieval Western Europe, focusing on the city of Rouen, France. The post of Specialist in Medieval and Early Modern Medicine was created to increase the profile of the Wellcome Library's important collections from these periods, and to stimulate and facilitate their use by a range of audiences, both physically and on-line.

The archive of the **Thalidomide Society** (SA/TSY) [bit.ly/N9GSdj](http://bit.ly/N9GSdj) and the papers of Professor Richard Smithells (PP/SML) [bit.ly/Nf4Hjr](http://bit.ly/Nf4Hjr) have been catalogued and are now available to researchers at the Wellcome Library.

Thalidomide was developed by the pharmaceutical company Grünenthal in Germany in 1957, and was used as a painkiller and tranquillizer. It was also effective in treating morning sickness during pregnancy, and many scientists believed that this drug would not harm the developing baby. However this was found not to be the case and over 10,000 children in 46 countries were born with deformities such as phocomelia. The drug was licensed in the UK in 1958, marketed as Distaval, and was withdrawn in late 1961. Between 1959 and 1962 approximately 2,000 babies were born with deformities due to the drug, and only 466 survived. 2012 is a landmark year concerning thalidomide: it is just over 50 years since withdrawal of the drug Distaval and is the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Thalidomide Society.

The Thalidomide Society (originally called the Society for the Aid of Thalidomide Children) was formed by a meeting of four parents in August 1962, at the Dolphin Hotel in Southampton. Their aim was to set up a national society devoted to the aid of their own and other children affected by the drug thalidomide. The inaugural meeting took place on 20 October 1962, with forty-four parents attending. A draft constitution was created which states that the Society would not only include children affected by thalidomide but those with similar disabilities. Branches of the Thalidomide Society were set up, due to the wide geographic range of the parents. They would meet regularly and operated with local organizations that could help the families.

The Society is now a user-led organization; the majority of the council is made up of thalidomide affected people. The archive of the Thalidomide Society contains documents on its creation, fundraising schemes, publications, and of their recent events such as the annual AGM and conferences.

Distillers (the company that distributed thalidomide: it is now owned by Diageo Ltd) and the parents of the children affected by thalidomide finally reached a settlement in 1973, after years of negotiations.

From this the Thalidomide Children's Trust (now the Thalidomide Trust) was set up to distribute the payments fairly amongst those affected. Professor Richard Smithells, a renowned consultant paediatrician, worked closely in these negotiations and provided medical testimony. Smithells became involved with thalidomide as a clinician on the Liverpool Registry of Congenital Abnormalities that was formed in 1960, where he began studying the links between prescription drug use during pregnancy and birth defects. Along with several other physicians he discovered the teratogenicity of thalidomide in 1961, and subsequently became a leading expert on thalidomide diagnostics. Much of his work concerning thalidomide and congenital malformations is reflected in his catalogued papers.

The collections of the Thalidomide Society and Professor Smithells are part of the Wellcome Library's Archives and Manuscripts collection. Please note that due to the subject and nature of the material a significant proportion of the documents in these two collections have been closed for various fixed periods, for data sensitivity reasons.

The free online database *Your Paintings* [www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings/) was recently launched. It makes available information on more than 100,000 paintings in public and private collections in the United Kingdom that are accessible to the public. The collections include not only art institutions but also, for example, local government offices, schools, almshouses, libraries, and police stations. It is an online counterpart to the printed catalogues of paintings being produced by the charity The Public Catalogue Foundation [www.thepcf.org.uk](http://www.thepcf.org.uk). Indeed the data for *Your Paintings* are produced by staff of The Public Catalogue Foundation in collaboration with the contributing institutions, while the website is hosted as a public service by the BBC. The database is expanding towards its estimated target of 200,000 paintings. February 2012 saw the addition of around 7,000 paintings including 1,291 items from the Wellcome Library <http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings/galleries/collections/wellcome-library-1657>.

Although the Wellcome Library has contributed catalogue data to many other online union catalogues, *Your Paintings* is at present probably the best source from which to display online images of paintings in the Wellcome Library. The cut-off date for inclusion was April 2011: new acquisitions after that date (eight paintings so far) are excluded, as are new attributions and identifications of subjects; it may be possible to add them later. They are, of course, included in the Wellcome Library catalogue [catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk](http://catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk).

## MEDICAL HISTORY RESOURCES

A website has been created for scholars interested in **medicine in art in 19th century France** to provide free access to the unpublished dissertation of Richard E. Weisberg, "The Representation of Doctors at Work in Salon Art of the Early Third Republic in France" (New York University, 1995). Richard suffered an unexpected illness in 2011 and died in May of that year. Although it was his intention to revise this nearly 900-page work into a book or journal articles, his time was consumed as founder and principal of Cobble Hill School of American Studies and adjunct professor of Educational Leadership at Touro College. His work provides substantial material on French images of physicians, including extensive quotations from primary sources. In addition to downloadable PDFs of individual chapters, the site includes biographical information and a complete list of the dissertation's 152 figures. The URL is [faculty.baruch.cuny.edu/bhansen/weisberg.home.htm](http://faculty.baruch.cuny.edu/bhansen/weisberg.home.htm). For questions, write [Bert.Hansen@Baruch.CUNY.edu](mailto:Bert.Hansen@Baruch.CUNY.edu).

A new online archive catalogue will, for the first time, enable academics and the public to access a range of fascinating and rare historical letters and other items which have been discovered within the collection of the **Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh (RCPE)**.

The RCPE Library and Archives has tens of thousands of manuscripts and letters within its collections which it has previously not had the

resources to catalogue. As a result of a recent, and ongoing, project, funded by the Wellcome Trust, over 8,000 previously uncatalogued items have been identified and recorded in order to open up access to this material for the benefit of the nation. Fascinating items discovered during this work include a draft post mortem report on Napoleon Bonaparte (written on St Helena on the day he died), correspondence with the Marquis de Lafayette (hero of both the American and French Revolutions), notes regarding the conduct of Dr Robert Knox (of Burke and Hare notoriety), a letter from Rudyard Kipling, and the correspondence of Edward Jenner (the pioneer of smallpox vaccination) as he reported progress with his discovery.

Previously, only basic information was known about these collections, but as individual volumes and documents have been catalogued and described in detail for the first time, incredible detail is emerging of the treasures within the collection. Lecture notes and research by some of the most eminent doctors of their day, such as William Cullen and Sir James Young Simpson, demonstrate developments in medical theory and practice from 1700 onwards, in one of the most important centers for medical education in the world. By way of balance, the collections also include patient case notes, drawings, and medical illustrations. These not only provided the doctors with the much-needed evidence for their research but also give the collections a human dimension. So alongside Simpson's lectures on childbirth is the entry in the case book for the Royal Maternity Hospital showing the name of the first woman to give birth using chloroform in 1847.

It is with great pleasure that we announce the launch of the new website for the **University of Minnesota's Academic Health Center Oral History Project** [blog.lib.umn.edu/ahc-ohp/ahc-oral-history-project/](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/ahc-ohp/ahc-oral-history-project/). The University of Minnesota's Academic Health Center Oral History Project preserves the personal stories of key individuals who were involved with the formation of the university's Academic Health Center, served in



leadership roles, or have specific insights into the institution's history. By bringing together a representative group of figures in the history of the University of Minnesota's AHC, this project provides compelling documentation of recent developments in the history of American health care education, practice, and policy.

From the website you can access the transcripts of thirty-five oral history interviews with current and former faculty members, alumni, and staff of the University's Medical School, School of Nursing, School of Public Health, College of Dentistry, College of Pharmacy, College of Veterinary Medicine, and University Hospitals and Clinics. Additional transcripts will be added as more interviews are completed. From the website, you can also access descriptive and timeline information for the University's Academic Health Center and its constituent schools, as well as resources for using oral history in your own research and teaching.

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

**The Department of the History of Science at Harvard University** is conducting a tenure-track (assistant or associate professorial level) search in the history of medicine, post 1800. A Ph.D. is required by the expected start date, and the Department is especially interested in candidates who show exceptional promise as scholars, teachers, and mentors, and who can offer high-impact courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The appointment is expected to begin on July 1, 2013. Applications should include a curriculum vitae, a brief outline of present scholarly projects and future plans, a brief statement of teaching experience and approach, and names and contact information for 3-5 references. We also ask candidates to submit a sample of recent scholarly work and copies of external teaching evaluations if available. All materials should be submitted directly to the Harvard academic positions site at [academicpositions.harvard.edu/postings/4179](http://academicpositions.harvard.edu/postings/4179).

Harvard is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer, and welcomes applications

from women and members of minority groups. Application deadline is **15 October 2012**.

## OTHER NEWS

On behalf of the **History Advocacy Committee** of Lucretia McClure, chair; Michael Flannery; Donna Hirst, submissions for a column titled "Historical Communications" not to exceed 1500 words to appear in *JMLA*, *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, are now solicited. Deadline is 15 September for publication in the April issue. General Guidelines: 1) The column will contain regular, brief articles with a historical focus addressing matters of general interest to health sciences libraries. Topics should be relevant to a wide readership in both library and medical communities. 2) The column should not focus on news such as new research tools or new collections. 3) Bibliographies, book reviews, commentaries, editorials, "remember when" pieces should not be submitted. 4) Examples of topics might include history of informed consent, what HIPAA means to libraries, closing of hospital libraries, review of history of medicine libraries, historic changes in the profession (including library education). 5) All submissions should follow the *JMLA* Information for Authors (see [www.mlanet.org/publications/jmla/jmlainfo.html#ref\\_examples](http://www.mlanet.org/publications/jmla/jmlainfo.html#ref_examples)) including double-spaced and fully referenced. Send submissions as Word or Word compatible attachments to [Flannery@uab.edu](mailto:Flannery@uab.edu).

The first issue of the new journal *Histoire, médecine et santé* will be out from the Presses of the University Toulouse-Le Mirail. Please find below the links and summary provided by the editors and the publishing press. Share this great news with your colleagues and networks! [framespa.univ-tlse2.fr/actualites/publications/histoire-medecine-et-sante/](http://framespa.univ-tlse2.fr/actualites/publications/histoire-medecine-et-sante/).

"Nursing Clio" [nursingclio.wordpress.com/](http://nursingclio.wordpress.com/) is a collaborative blog project that ties historical scholarship to present-day political, social, and cultural issues surrounding gender and medicine. Men's and women's bodies, their reproductive

rights, and their health care are often at the center of political debate and have also become a large part of the social and cultural discussions in popular media. Whether the topic is abortion, birth control, sex, or the pregnant body, each and every one of these issues is embedded with historical dynamics of race, class, and gender. Our tagline – The Personal is Historical – is meant to convey that the medical debates that dominate today’s headlines are, in fact, ongoing dialogues that reach far back into our country’s past.

The mission of “Nursing Clio” is to provide a platform for historians, health care workers, community activists, students, and the public at large to engage in socio-political and cultural critiques of this ongoing and historical debate over the gendered body. It is our contention that “Nursing Clio” will provide a coherent, intelligent, informative, and fun historical source for these issues.

The thirty-ninth meeting of the **History of Dermatology Society** was held in San Diego, CA, on 15 March 2012, according to Lawrence Charles Parish, M.D., Philadelphia, president of the Society. This year’s topic was entitled “Caretakers of the Skin: Americans in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.” The Samuel J. Zakon Lecture was delivered at the annual dinner of the Society by Dr. Martin M. Black from London. Dr. Black’s lecture was entitled “The Spice of Life: Dermatological Travels and Friendships Along the Way.”

The winner of the Thirty-second Samuel J. Zakon Award in the History of Dermatology was announced. The Zakon Prize was awarded to Dr. Charles Steffen of California for his article “Pellagra: An Historical Review.” Both the Zakon Award and the Zakon Lecture are in memory of Dr. Samuel J. Zakon, outstanding Chicago dermatologist and historian. Membership in the Society is open to interested physicians and dermatology ancillary personnel, who should contact Dr. Anthony V. Benedetto at [sue@benedettoderm.com](mailto:sue@benedettoderm.com).

**The Center for the History of Family Medicine (CHFM)** announced today the winners of the 2012 CHFM Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine.

Rick Flinders, M.D. of Rohnert Park, CA and Robin S. Gotler, M.A., of Richfield, MN have been named the joint recipients of the Second Annual Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine. Flinders is a practicing family physician and currently serves as the Inpatient Director of the Santa Rosa Family Medicine Residency Program in Santa Rosa, California and as Chair of the Editorial Board of the Sonoma County Medical Association. Gotler is the Reflections Editor and Editorial Coordinator of the *Annals of Family Medicine*, a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary research journal based at Case Western Reserve University.

Flinders’ “The Santa Rosa Story: A Local Chapter in the Nation’s History of Family Medicine,” the subject which won him the 2012 CHFM Fellowship award, is a study in the history and development of the Santa Rosa Residency Program within the larger context of the history and evolution of the specialty itself. According to Dr. Flinders, the study “traces my own route into family medicine, and speaks to the historical and cultural roots that drew many of us into family medicine in the 60’s and 70’s, and continues to do so into this century.”

Robin Gotler’s fellowship award was for her project entitled “The Roots of Family Practice Research.” This study, according to Gotler, “aims to further our understanding of what shaped the priority given to research as the specialty of family practice was established and in its early years. Examining the history of research in family practice sheds light not only on the specialty’s knowledge base but also on a range of issues that continue to challenge the field today.”

