On May 10, 2014 I became president of this wonderful organization. This momentous event was marked by the passage of a gavel, and my first act as president was to whack it down and call the meeting adjourned. It is no doubt clichéd but also heartfelt to say that I deeply appreciate this honor and look forward to serving this association that has done so much to support me, my career, and my work. It has been a pleasure to serve as vice president with Nancy Tomes, who set a model of cheerfulness and wisdom in facing the many issues that have arisen in the past two years. In that time I came to realize how much the association depends on the able management of Jodi Koste and Margaret Marsh, and I am very lucky that both will continue into the coming year. It is no small thing that a managing group should be so simpatico and the addition of Chris Crenner as the new vice president rounds out a solid team. Such has not always been the case.

When I first came to AAHM in the late 1970s, an eager graduate student prone to Harvard pretensions, the meeting was ablaze with battles between the social historians and the older physician leaders of this group. It would not be long before Lloyd Stevenson would famously suggest that upstarts Susan Reverby and David Rosner would do well to take Gert Brieger to lunch. Those debates were about professionalism, about who had the right to claim to be a “professional” medical historian, and who was merely an amateur. In later years I found a mug from the This Old House television program that proclaimed: “I’m a professional. Don’t try this at home,” which somehow seemed to speak to the controversy. Both sides felt threatened, and both sides bristled at claims of inadequacy. We are of course trained in different skills, but we need each other.

If a historian of obstetrics has never delivered a baby, then s/he should listen to someone who has made a career of such work if s/he announces that the anatomy or etiology or understanding of a given birth process is all wrong. And if a historian brings a feminist perspective to women’s health care and challenges a certain clinical practice as not in women’s best interest, then the information should flow as well from academy into clinic. As a field, we need scholars trained in a variety of professions to keep us honest, focused, and accurate in our historical analysis.

There was barely a whiff of such antagonism at our most recent gathering. Mindy Schwartz and her team chose a beautiful setting in the midst of a vibrant city. The Chicago meeting was refreshing for its energy and excitement, what with trying new session formats and exploring the new modes of media outreach that reach different facets of our historical audience. If we were once divided by M.D. and Ph.D., perhaps we are now more distinguished by whether we text, tweet, email, or actually call people on the phone. Those who embrace these new media need to be gentle with those who feel less comfortable in this new world.
Another descendent of Irish immigrants once said upon ascending to the presidency, “Let the word go forth from this time and place . . . that the torch has passed to a new generation.” It was such a gloomy winter this year, a winter that seemed to last for several years in the hard economic times that followed the collapse of 2008. Everywhere we hear attacks upon the humanities from politicians, distress about the Affordable Care Act, fear of global warming, concern about the lack of jobs for new PhDs and the plight of adjuncts. Academia seems at times to be mired in the great dismal swamp. Yet this has been, in spite of and perhaps because of it all, a glorious spring.

To continue with JFK: “So let us begin anew—remembering on both sides that civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof. . . . Let both sides explore what problems unite us instead of belaboring those problems which divide us. . . . Let both sides seek to invoke the wonders of science instead of its terrors.” Our association felt exuberantly young in Chicago, and welcoming to scholars both of multiple disciplines as well as from all over the world. The roster assembled by program chairs Jeremy Greene and Hisa Kuriyama had experimental sessions and new faces, global topics and familiar subjects revisited. Energy flowed in hallway conversations as issues were debated and points of view expressed. It felt new again, and fun.

The AAHM is above all a collective, a volunteer organization guided by leaders but staffed by the membership. More than a tenth of the membership is serving on a committee at any given time. After the doldrums of the great recession, the membership count has now climbed back over a 1000, and we hope for continued growth. AAHM thrives because of its members’ active participation in both accomplishing the regular yearly tasks and leading in innovation. If there is something you don’t like, something you want to change—don’t just complain, get involved. [continued on page 3]
All right, you knew this was coming: “My fellow [AAHMers], ask not what your [association] can do for you—ask what you can do for your [association].” There are many problems in American academia that no one person or association can solve. But one direction that is possible is to build ever stronger ties of community through our organization.

Next year we are going to celebrate the AAHM’s 90th birthday at the meeting in New Haven. Our traditional venue for distributing the Association’s prizes and medals has been the banquet held on Saturday night. But fewer and fewer members have chosen to attend (sorry, JFK had nothing to say about rubber chicken and high costs), and the communal joy in honoring our own was accordingly shared by only a fraction of the meeting’s attendees. Next year we’ll have a birthday party instead of the banquet, and move the prizes to another spot in the program so everyone can cheer the winners.

My tenure as president began with a silly bit of foolery presented in all solemnity by Professor Norman Gevitz. The awards ceremony also had moments of humor (Steve Inrig’s memorable performance re the Osler prize comes to mind, as well as Danny asking each table if they had lost their nuts—you had to be there). As an association let us take our scholarship very seriously, but, one hopes, ourselves less so.

Charlotte Nathalie Weisberg, Jefferson College of Medicine, received an honorable mention for her essay, “Deja Vu All Over Again: The movement to reform American Medical Education in the Years 1910-2010.”

The Richard Shryock Medal was awarded to Mary Augusta Brazelton, Ph.D. candidate, Department of History and Program in the History of Medicine, Yale University, for her paper, “Peking Union Medical College and the Politics of Medical Education in the Early People’s Republic of China, 1949-56.”

The Garrison Lecturer for 2014 will be David Rosner of Columbia University.


The Jack D. Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Career Development Award in 20th Century History of Medicine or Science was presented to Clair Edington, Ph.D., a post-doctoral fellow at the Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, for her project “Beyond the Asylum: The Social History of Psychiatry in French Indochina, 1880-1940.”

The J. Worth Estes Prize for a published essay of outstanding merit in the history of pharmacology was awarded to Cynthia Connolly, Janet Golden, and Benjamin Schneider, for their article, “A Startling New Chemotherapeutic Agent: Pediatric Infectious Disease and the Introduction of Sulfonamides at Baltimore’s Sydenham Hospital,” Bulletin of the History of Medicine 86 (2012): 66-93.

The Association awarded John C. Burnham the Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award.
AAHM Call for Papers

The American Association for the History of Medicine invites abstracts for papers in any area of medical history for its 88th annual meeting, to be held in New Haven, Connecticut, 30 April to 3 May 2015. The Association welcomes papers on the history of health and healing; on the history of medical ideas, practices, and institutions, and on any aspect of the history of illness, disease or public health. The Program Committee, led by Co-Chairs Ann Carmichael carmicha@indiana.edu and Stephen Inrig sinrig@msmc.la.edu, encourages single-paper proposals, and we further welcome proposals for creatively structured panels that expand the horizons of medical history and abstracts for luncheon workshops. Please contact one or both of the Program Committee Co-chairs if you are planning a workshop or panel. The Program Committee will judge individual papers for workshops and panels on their own merits.

Limit presentations to 20 minutes. We do not require you to be members of AAHM before submitting an abstract, but you must join AAHM before registering for and presenting at the meeting. All papers must represent original work not already published or in press. We also encourage speakers to make their manuscripts available for consideration for publication by the official journal of the AAHM, the Bulletin of the History of Medicine.

The AAHM uses an online abstract submissions system. We encourage all applicants to use this convenient software aahm.conference-services.net/authorlogin.asp?conferenceID=4270&language=en-uk. If you are unable to submit proposals online, send two paper copies of a one-page abstract (350 words maximum not including learning objectives) to Co-Chair Ann Carmichael [Indiana University History Department/1020 E. Kirkwood Ave./ Bloomington, IN 47405-7103]

Instructions: First, when proposing a historical argument, state your major claim, summarize the evidence supporting your claim, and state your major conclusion(s). When proposing a narrative, summarize the story, identify the major agents, and specify the conflict. Second, to facilitate approval of your paper for CME/CNE credit (such credit is vital to many AAHM members), please include three learning objectives with your abstracts. We don’t count these objectives towards the 350 word abstract limit, and we have listed some sample objectives on the meeting website you can use. Finally, remember to provide the following information on the same sheet as the abstract: your name, preferred mailing address, work and home telephone numbers, e-mail address, present institutional affiliation, and academic degrees.

We must receive your abstract by 26 September 2014. We cannot accept e-mailed or faxed proposals. We will make your email address available, if your paper is accepted, unless you opt out of this by emailing sinrig@msmc.la.edu.

Call for Nominations, AAHM Awards, 2015

All awards will be presented at the AAHM annual meeting in New Haven, CT, on 2 May 2015. Additional information may be found on the AAHM website: www.histmed.org/about/awards.

Osler Medal Essay Contest, 2015. 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 on the AAHM website www.histmed.org/about/awards or obtained from the Osler Medal Committee Chair: Dale Smith, Professor of Military Medicine & History, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, 4301 Jones Bridge Road, Bethesda, MD 20814-4799; dale.smith@usuhs.edu. Entries must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) by 16 January 2015.

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: www.histmed.org/about/awards/shryock-medal or contact the Shryock Medal Committee Chair: David Barnes, Department of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, 303 Cohen Hall, Philadelphia PA 19104-6304; email: dbarnes@sas.upenn.edu. Essays must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) no later than 16 January 2015.

J. Worth Estes Prize, 2015. 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 2012 and 2013. For additional information see the website: histmed.org/about/awards/j-worth-estes-prize. Nominations should be directed to the Chair of the Committee, Dominique Tobbell, 505 Essex Street SE, 510A Diehl Hall, Minneapolis, MN 55455-0377; dtobbell@umn.edu and must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) no later than 16 January 2015.

Jack D. Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Development Award in 20th Century History of medicine or Science, 2015. 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., 20010–2014). The application, including all supporting materials, must be postmarked by 31 December 2014 and addressed to the Chair of the Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Committee, Richard Keller, Department of Medical History and Bioethics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1300 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53706; rckeller@wisc.edu. Email submissions are preferred.

Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award, 2015. This AAHM award was established in 1988; the first recipients were Saul Jarcho, Lester King, and Owsei Temkin. The award was named for Genevieve Miller in 2014 to honor of her contributions to the history of medicine and the Association. The award is given annually to a member of the Association who 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. John Parascandola, chair of the Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, welcomes nominations for the award, at the following e-mail address: jparascandola@verizon.net. Deadline for nominations: 31 October 2014. Electronic submissions are preferred.

George Rosen Prize. 2015. This prize is awarded to one or more authors/creators of a book, article, essay, edited volume, database, museum exhibition, film, or other significant contribution to the history of public health and social medicine published or created in the two years preceding the award from 2012 to 2014. The inaugural award will be presented at the 2015 annual meeting of the AAHM. The award is named in honor of George Rosen, physician,
public health administrator, past president of the AAHM, and a major contributor to the history of social medicine. The chair of the 2014-2015 Rosen Prize Committee, John Eyler welcomes suggestions of books, articles, films or other significant scholarly endeavors to consider for the award. Publishers nominating a book must send a copy to each member of the committee. To nominate materials and to obtain mailing addresses of all committee members, contact via phone or e-mail: John Eyler, 4609 Gustafson Drive NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335-8156; eyler001@umn.edu. Deadline for nominations: 31 October 2014.

AAHM Committees, 2014-2015

Program Committee:
Ann Carmichael, Co-chair
Stephen Inrig, Co-chair
Pablo Gomez
Nicole Barnes
Mary Lindemann

Committee on Annual Meetings:
(three-year staggered terms)
James Edmondson, Chair (through 2016)
Sarah Tracy (2015)
James Mohr (2016)
Janet Golden (2016)
Aimee Medeiros (2017)
Beth Linker (2017)

Committee on Education and Outreach:
(three-year staggered terms)
Deborah Levine, Chair (through 2016)
Karen Ross (2015)
Heather Prescott (2015)
Andrew Reis (2016)
Elena Conis (2017)

Nominations Committee:
(through 2014)
Jacalyn Duffin, Chair
Wendy Kline
Michael Flannery

Estes Prize Committee:
Dominique Tobbell Chair
Justin Barr
Kavita Sivaramakishnan

Pressman Burroughs Wellcome Prize:
Rich Keller (2016)
Dennis Doyle (2015)
P B Mukharji (2017)

Welch Medal Committee:
Susan Lederer, Chair
Susan Smith
Patricia D'Antonio
Mick Worboys
Mariola Espinosa
David Jones

Osler Medal Committee:
Dale Smith, Chair
Paul Berman
Charlie Bryan
Edward Halperin
Elizabeth Dreesen

Shryock Medal Committee:
David Barnes, Chair
Jeff Brosco
Bert Hansen
Julia Irwin
Flurin Condrau

Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award:
John Parascandola, Chair
Ann LaBerge
John Burnham

George Rosen Prize Committee
John Eyler, Chair
Judy Leavitt
Thomas Gariepy
Lisa O’Sullivan
Jacob Steere-Williams
Garrison Lecture Committee:
Norman Gevitz, Chair
Caroline Hannaway
Daniel Goldberg
Cynthia Connolly
Celeste Chamberland

Publications Committee:
(six-year terms)
Arleen Tuchman, Chair (2017)
Scott Podolsky (2016)
Rima Apple (2019)

Committee on Finance:
(three-year, staggered terms)
Susan Lawrence, Chair (2016)
Jennifer Gunn, Chair (2015)
Gerald Grob (2016)

Committee on Student Affairs
Mary Augusta Brazelton, Chair
Walt Schalick (Faculty Advisor)

AAHM NewsLetter:
Jodi Koste
Joan Echtenkamp Klein

Delegate to the International Society for the History of Medicine: (two-year term)
Andrew Nadell (2015)

Delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies:
Caroline Hannaway (2015)

Ad Hoc Committee on Travel Grants:
(three-year, staggered terms)
Carla Bittel, Chair (2015)
Karen Kruse Thomas, (2016)
Paula Michaels (2017)

Ad Hoc Committee on Membership
Jeffrey Baker, Co-Chair
Michaela Sullivan-Fowler, Co-Chair
Paul Berman
Lisa Bob
Debbie Doroshow
Deborah Levine
Steve Peitzman
Shannon Withycombe

Ad Hoc Committee on New Media
Stephen Casper, Co-Chair
Heidi Knoblauch, Co-Chair
Jacob Steere-Williams
Jean Whelan
Kelly O'Donnell
Lisa O'Sullivan
Bridget Collins

AAHM BYLAWS

At the 2014 annual business meeting of the Association the membership voted to amend the bylaws. Below are the new additions:

Article 4 Council, Section 2: Deleted: Six shall constitute a quorum of the Council. Add to section 5: Three officers and seven members of Council shall constitute a quorum

Article 8 Awards, Section 10: The Association may award the George Rosen Prize to one or more authors/creators of a book, article, essay, edited volume, museum exhibition, film, or other significant contribution to the history of public health and social medicine published or created in the two years preceding the award. The prize shall not be awarded more often than once a year. The person(s) to receive the award shall be selected by the Rosen Prize Committee.

Article 10 Committees, Section 15: The President shall appoint annually a Rosen Prize Committee to select the recipient of the George Rosen Prize.
Article 10 Committees, Section 16: The President shall appoint a graduate or professional student member every two years to serve as chair of the Committee on Student Affairs. The President shall appoint a faculty adviser every two years. The
Committee for Student Affairs advises Council on issues related to graduate and professional students. It assists in planning events for students at the annual meeting, recruiting new student members, compiling educational resources, and promoting the history of medicine.

**NEWS OF MEMBERS**

Margaret Marsh and Wanda Ronner have received an Investigator Award in Health Policy Research from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for a book and related articles on infertility and assisted reproduction from the development of *in vitro* fertilization to the present. More information about their project is at [www.investigatorawards.org/investigators/current-investigators](http://www.investigatorawards.org/investigators/current-investigators).


**OBITUARIES**

**Robert L. Martensen (1947-2013)**

The Office of NIH History (ONH) mourns the loss of former director Robert L. Martensen, Ph.D., M.D. Martensen came to NIH with a unique background: he had been a physician in emergency rooms and intensive care units and a professor at Harvard Medical School and Tulane University. As a professor, he taught both bioethics and medical history. After Hurricane Katrina devastated Tulane, he left Louisiana for the NIH.

Martensen was the second director of the Office of NIH History (2007-2012). He greatly expanded the Stetten Fellow research program, which brings in post-docs in medical history to work on topics in specific institutes. While at ONH, Stetten Fellows work with scientific contacts in the institutes and publish articles and books and present lectures based on their research into NIH’s history. Martensen was particularly concerned with mentoring the next generation of medical historians and worked closely with the Fellows to develop their research topics, skills, and output. He also built up the office by adding an archivist and exhibit designer to the staff. With wide-ranging research interests, Martensen published on several seemingly disparate topics. For example, he received a Guggenheim Fellowship to complete his book *The Brain Takes Shape: An Early History* (2004). He also wrote on 19th-century theories of health and the environment in *Restorative Commons: Creating Health and Well-being Through Urban Landscapes* (2009). But he is most widely known for his book *A Life Worth Living: A Doctor’s Reflections on Illness in a High-Tech Era* (2008). He used patient cases, many in which he was a participating physician, to examine end-of-life care issues in the United States from the points of view of hospital administrators, patients, and physicians. The book garnered great interest from both physician groups and patients and the media because of its frank depictions and discussions of the emotionally-fraught decisions that must be made at the end of someone’s life.

Martensen’s varied qualities—empathy, intelligence, calmness, and ability to communicate—all of which made him a quality physician and historian, also made him a genuinely interested and interesting leader. “He was easy to talk to about work and about personal issues,” says Michele Lyons. “In that he was rare.” He also collected art, and loved the opera, bicycling, traveling, and his three sons.

Martensen was born January 1, 1947, in Lake County, Ohio. He received his B.A. from Harvard in 1969; M.D. from Dartmouth Medical School in 1974; and M.A. and Ph.D. from UC San Francisco in 1993. He died September 26, 2013 in Pasadena, California.

For more information about his life and work, visit the following:
Robert Martensen had three sons. The following information on his life comes from remarks made by his son Bayard Martensen at the memorial at St. Bartholomew’s church on Park Avenue, New York City.

Rob grew up in the Detroit suburbs. He was the valedictorian of his high school class. Motown greats—The Supremes, The Four Tops, and the Temptations—played at his high school dances. He majored in design at Harvard. After college Rob taught skiing at a ski resort in New Mexico. He was a conscientious objector to the Vietnam War. After taking some college chemistry and biology classes he went to Dartmouth Medical School, where he, inexpertly, played on the medical school’s ice hockey team. Rob’s residency was at the University of California San Francisco.

For a while Rob quit medicine and went into real estate. His design degree from Harvard was useful, as he partially designed the family’s vacation house in Sonoma and it was featured in a home magazine. During this time he also owned other properties in California and Hawaii, one of which was a 200 acre cattle ranch south of San Francisco. In the late 1980s the real estate business collapsed due to changes in tax law. Rob continued to manage several of his real estate properties – two restaurants in Atlanta and a bookstore. He went back to work in medicine and started a post-graduate degree in medical history at UCSF.

Rob took Bayard on three Sierra Club trips: a mule trip to a series of lakes in the High Sierra; a hike up Pikes Peak Pass in Colorado; and a briskly paced march through a desert canyon in Utah. After he received his graduate degree from UCSF, Rob pursued his academic career in a series of jobs of increasing responsibility in Cambridge, Kansas City, New Orleans and Washington, DC.

Bayard says that while they saw each other less, they continued to have wide ranging conversations over the phone. According to Bayard, they “talked about everything from the latest movie, to investing, to psychological egoism, to history, to my relationship with my friends. I will miss my father as a friend, confidant, and supporter, but celebrate with you the rich and diverse life that he lived within his given time.”

**ARCHIVES/LIBRARIES/MUSEUMS**

The Helen Hayes Rehabilitation Hospital in West Haverstraw, NY, an affiliate of Columbia University, announced the availability of their archives. The hospital was established by Theodore Roosevelt in 1900 while he was serving as governor of New York. For further information contact Glenn Seliger, M.D., Director of Traumatic Brain Injury, Helen Hayes Hospital; (845) 641-6373; seliger2@helenhayeshosp.org.

Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) has released a new collection of historical documents featuring meeting materials, publications, and other resources from the association’s five governing bodies. These serve as important primary source materials for AAMC members and researchers interested in the history of medical education in the U.S. and Canada. Making these materials more easily accessible to the public will help shed light on the AAMC’s long and intense
involvement with the development of modern-day medical education.

Posting archives online is increasingly considered a best practice, as it provides easy public access to these important records, and increases the transparency of the AAMC’s history while also preserving the actual archival documents. The digitized documents represent a curated collection selected from the voluminous archives on AAMC history, and more than triples the online collection of digitized AAMC documents available to the public. This expansion includes AAMC governance business records as well as its annual reports from 1962-2000, which highlight the association’s annual activities.

This project has been funded in whole or in part with Federal funds from the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, under Contract No. HHS-N-276-2011-00004-C with the University of Maryland Baltimore and supplements an earlier grant funded by the same organization under Contract No. N01-LM-6-3502. For more information, visit www.aamc.org/about/history/foundations.

After slightly more than a year of uploading material to the Medical Heritage Library, the US Navy’s Bureau of Medicine and Surgery’s 2000th item appeared online today. “A Series of Reports to the Nursing Division of the activities of the Nurse Corps Officers serving aboard the U.S. Naval Hospital in the Repose” is now easily available for research at archive.org/details/USSReposeSeriesOfReportsToTheNursingDivisionOfTheActivitiesOfTheNurseCorpsOffice.

The reports from CDRs Angelica Vitillo and M.T. Kovacevich back to Captain Ruth Erickson, Director of the Navy Nurse Corps, and her successor CAPT Veronica Bulshefski date from 8 November 1965 to 2 December 1966. They are in turns informative, chatty and sad. “Our first direct casualty which arrived Saturday, the nineteenth, was a nineteen year old bilateral mid-thigh amputee who to date has received over 45 pints of blood.” (28 February 1966)

“The improvements we have initiated in our individual staterooms have contributed to maintaining a high state of moral among the nurses. One of the base shops at Hunters Point allowed us to misappropriate an assortment of very colorful and feminine looking bedspreads for our rooms.” (13 December 1965)

“Death claimed the life of a very young man who had extensive chest wounds on Monday, the seventh and a thirty three year old arm amputee with other extensive wounds on Tuesday the eighth. Some of our young nurses are feeling these losses acutely.” (9 March 1966)

These letters join a soon-to-be complete set of over 1000 issues of 70 years of Navy Medicine magazine archive.org/search.php?query=collection%3Ausnavybumedhistoryoffice%20AND%20subject%3A%22Navy%20Medicine%20magazine&sort=-publicdate; oral histories with veterans of World War 2, Korea and Vietnam archive.org/search.php?query=collection%3Ausnavybumedhistoryoffice%20oral%20history&sort=-publicdate; a growing collection of audiovisuals including one on the Navy’s humanitarian efforts after the Vietnam War archive.org/details/THELUCKYFEWWMV91280x72016x9; and many other items. A small selection of our photographs may be found on Flickr at www.flickr.com/photos/navymedicine/.

Archives & Special Collections at Columbia University’s A.C. Long Health Sciences Library is pleased to announce the opening of the papers of Ethel Spector Person (1934-2012). Person, a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst, did pioneering research in the field of gender and sexual identity, specifically in the areas of transsexualism and transvestism. With Lionel Ovesey, she did groundbreaking work on the psychosexual roots of transsexuality and transvestism, distinguishing core
gender identity from gender-role identity, and gender identity from sexual preference.

Person also conducted groundbreaking research in the area of fantasy. Her most notable project was conducted at Columbia University, where, with Nettie Terestman, she surveyed students regarding their sexual and fantasy experiences, and then conducted a statistical analysis on the results in the context of gender.

In addition to her academic work, Person was noted for her popular works on sex, love, fantasy and sexuality. She was the author of four books: By Force of Fantasy: How We Make Our Lives (1995), The Sexual Century (1999), Feeling Strong: The Achievement of Authentic Power (2002) and Dreams of Love and Fateful Encounters: The Power of Romantic Passion (2006). She was also the first woman to be director of the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research, a position she held from 1981 to her retirement in 1991.

The papers include professional correspondence; research materials for a variety of topics in the fields of fantasy, gender and sexual identity, love, sex, power, and psychiatric theory; raw data and statistical information from the sexual fantasy and experience study she conducted; talks and published articles by Person; notes and research materials used in the writing of her books; and a small quantity of records of analysis performed by Person. There is very little material related to her personal life.

A special feature of the collection are the newsletters, catalogs, magazines, newspapers, and other materials Person gathered while doing research, such as case histories of transsexuals and transvestites; pamphlets from the Erickson Educational Foundation on matters of gender and sexual identity; publications such as TVTS, DRAG, and Transvestia; an issue of Ball & Chain, a Bondage, Domination and Sadomasochism (BDSM) newspaper; several BDSM product catalogs; one issue of the comic book, Forced Femininity; and unpublished amateur fiction depicting the process of forced feminization.

The bulk of the papers are open without restrictions, though for some material researchers may need to follow HIPAA Privacy Rule regulations. The finding aid can be found at: vesta.cumc.columbia.edu/library/archives/findingaids/person.html. For more information, please contact Archives & Special Collections at hslarchives@columbia.edu.

The Niels Bohr Library & Archives of the American Institute of Physics is pleased to announce the launch of its new and improved website for the Emilio Segrè Visual Archives photos.aip.org/?dm_i=1ZJR_2IKAC,E2O1VL,95Y2N,l. The new site features extensive content, including over 25,000 images from the Visual Archives. It is designed to assist the physics community and interested public in browsing images for presentations, exhibitions, and publications, with the option to purchase high-resolution copies.

The website focuses on formal and candid images, offering a glimpse into the professional and private lives of some of the world's most famous scientists. With new search features that include keywords, locations, categories, and collection highlights, the Emilio Segrè Visual Archives website offers a vast array of photos to choose from. Using the available filters tailors your results. Once you've chosen your images, our new e-commerce checkout system makes purchasing simple. All images bought are now stored for later use within your online account. Call us at (301) 209-3184 or order online at photos.aip.org.

The Morbid Anatomy Museum focuses on adult education in the humanities related to medicine and “surveying the interstices of art and medicine, death and culture.” There are regular talks and discussions held at the museum by medical scholars and medical historians which have proven hugely popular. For further information please visit morbidanatomy.blogspot.com and www.facebook.com/morbidanatomy?sk=events.
News from the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine

In the summer of 1946, an Oklahoma newspaper editor sent a young reporter to complete a story on a state psychiatric hospital. What the reporter found there—neglected, half-naked inmates, crowded together in filthy, dilapidated buildings, fed on rotten food—sent him hurrying outside to be sick. But he soon went back, taking along a photographer. And then he went to visit Oklahoma’s other state mental hospitals. His blistering series of newspaper articles about the institutions launched a grassroots reform movement: less than a year later, the state legislature voted huge budget increases for state hospitals, restructured the state hospital administration, and rewrote the state’s commitment laws.

The young journalist was Mike Gorman (1913–1989). His work in Oklahoma earned him a Lasker Award in 1948 and changed the course of his career. Several decades later he would be called “the country’s greatest modern missionary for mental health." Mike Gorman’s papers are now online at the National Library of Medicine’s Profiles in Science website profiles.nlm.nih.gov/ps/retrieve/Collection/CID/TG. Gorman’s Oklahoma experience taught him that newspaper exposés alone would not produce substantive changes. Public attention to social problems faded quickly, and entrenched social and political practices did not change without constant agitating from outside. Gorman would spend the rest of his life providing that agitation: gathering the facts about mental illness and other diseases; speaking to governors, legislators, professional groups and the public; testifying to Congressional appropriations committees and writing books and articles.

Gorman came to Washington, DC in 1951 to be a member of President Truman’s Commission on the Health Needs of the Nation, and in 1953 became executive director of the National Committee Against Mental Illness, a lobbying and advocacy organization founded by philanthropist and health care activist Mary Lasker. In that post, he became perhaps America’s best-known lobbyist and publicist in the crusade for psychiatric hospital reform and the community mental health center movement. Gorman played a key role in shaping many of the social programs of the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, including the Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act of 1963. During the 1970s and 1980s he also directed two other advocacy groups, Citizens for the Treatment of High Blood Pressure, which helped coordinate a highly successful national hypertension education and screening program, and the National Initiative for Glaucoma Control.

The presentation features correspondence, photographs, speeches and addresses given by Gorman, speeches he wrote for members of Congress and several U.S. Presidents, along with published articles and reports from the Gorman collection. Visitors to the site can view, for example, his first series of articles for the Daily Oklahoman, drafts of speeches Gorman wrote for Presidents Truman and Kennedy, and the public service announcements issued by the Citizens for the Treatment of High Blood Pressure.

News from the Wellcome Library

This summer the Wellcome Library will began digitizing its entire collection of pre-1500 Western European manuscripts. The digitized manuscripts, about 300 items in all, will be freely accessible through the Library catalogue and will become available steadily through the course of the project.

Our Western manuscripts are known to medievalists across the world, and cover a wide range of subjects, from learned medicine and surgery to magic, alchemy, botany, astrology, and more. They also reflect a range of manuscript formats, from conventional bound codices to folding almanacs and scrolls. Texts are written in Latin, Greek, English, German, French, Dutch, and several other languages, and many manuscripts are illustrated with drawings, diagrams, illuminated initials, or even marginal grotesques.
The manuscripts will be photographed in batches of 20 items, with each batch taken out of circulation for 8 weeks, during which time items will be unavailable for consultation in the Rare Materials Room. Full information about batches and schedules can be found on the Library website. Photography will be completed at the end of October, 2015.

We hope that this project will both facilitate further research on well-known manuscripts, like the ‘Wellcome Apocalypse’ (ms. 49) and the ‘Physician’s Handbook’ (ms. 8004), and encourage discovery of lesser-known items. We are very keen for the digitized content to be viewed not just by medievalists, but also by non-specialists who are interested in these fascinating objects. We wish to attract audiences in many different parts of the world, and to enable study of our manuscripts alongside items in other library collections.

The Wellcome Library has digitized over 130,000 pages of correspondence, personal and field diaries and reports, photographs, and memoirs associated with the allied medical services during World War I. Drawn from material presented to the Royal Army Medical Corps Museum and Archive (now the Army Medical Services Museum Trust), the collection covers virtually every sphere of operations, including the Balkan Front, the Dardanelles, East Africa, India, Italy, Malta, Mesopotamia and the Middle East, Russia, and South West Africa, as well as the Western and British Home Fronts.

Rich in data for military and family historians, the collection sheds light on the lived experience of those involved in the war, both at a personal level (in the form of personal letters or diaries, such as the one kept by Private G. W. Jode, who served as a hospital orderly in Mesopotamia), and for units as a whole, as evidenced by Y News, the ‘newspaper’ produced by members of the East Lancashire Field Ambulance during the ill-fated Gallipoli campaign in 1915. The collection also includes material relating to prisoners of war, an often overlooked group in accounts of the conflict. Like the Y News, many items reveal characteristic battlefield humor, as with the parody of an official ‘letter to wives’, among the papers of Captain Neil Cantlie RAMC, who served with the 6th Division at the Battle of Somme in 1916. The same file also contains more conventional records of the campaign, including Cantlie’s official ‘war diary’, field maps, and trench plans.

The collection is also rich in personal memoirs (most of which were previously unpublished), produced by ex-service personnel in the years or decades after the war, forming an invaluable record of the recollections of a generation which has now passed away. blog.wellcomelibrary.org/2014/06/rediscovering-the-great-war/.

The Wellcome Library has digitized its collection of nearly 600 Nightingale letters dating from 1829 to 1905. The Florence Nightingale Digitization Project, which is in partnership with Boston University and the Florence Nightingale Museum, in London, means that virtually the entirety of Nightingale’s correspondence will be freely available online.

In 1854, at the age of 24, Florence Nightingale led the first team of British female nurses sent to the Crimean War. The Crimean mission was devastating to her health; she nearly died of ‘Crimean fever’ and never fully recovered. By the age of 37, she had become an invalid and would remain so for the rest of her life. She described herself as ‘a prisoner of her own room’. But Nightingale did not let the illness burden her. She turned ‘imprisonment’ into a massive correspondence, which together with her network of colleagues, collaborators, and advisors helped her fulfill many of her great ideas. The legacy of her work is reflected in her letters.

The original correspondence (MSS.5471-5483) covers the almost eight decades of Florence Nightingale’s life. The letters vary in subject and accordingly reflect a wide variety of recipients. The subjects range from professional concerns such as the Crimean War, reforming nursing practice, Indian
sanitation and the use of medical statistics, to personal and family matters.

Her letters are both insightful and surprising: in a letter written in 1829, nine-year-old Florence puzzles her cousin Henry with the following riddle as transcribed from the original: “What can you add to 9 to make 6? For instance a gentleman sent nine ducks to his friend, who carried them stole 3. Now you must know the gentleman wrote the number of ducks on the basket. How could the man alter the number nine into six so that there was no blotting out and so that he was not found out? You must recollect that he added something.”

The correspondence is grouped in letters either to particular individuals (MSS.5471-5482) or in date order to various recipients (MS.5483). For more information blog.wellcomelibrary.org/2014/04/florence-nightingale-letters-available-online/.

Over the past two years, putting the Library’s collections online has become a major part of what we do. To date, over 45,000 items have been digitized and made available through the main library catalogue. Google also makes a fair go of indexing more than 40,000 of our objects. With materials ranging from archives and AIDS awareness posters to votive offerings and woodcuts, an average of 300 newly-digitized items are going online each week. But how is it possible to browse everything to get a flavor of what’s available? What if you aren’t sure what to search for, but just want to see what’s available in the Wellcome Library collections? What about good old-fashioned serendipity?

Tucked away in the Library’s website is a new space called the Sandbox wellcomelibrary.org/about-this-site/sandbox/. Here we are trialing a few experimental tools in hopes of developing them further into something that can be used to explore our collections. The tools currently available are most definitely what we would call ‘rough and ready’. You’ll find bugs, duplication of data, and unexpected faults with the design, all of which we intend to fix before launching these as permanent fixtures on the Library website. But what you’ll also find are two alternative—and, hopefully, serendipitous–paths into the digitized content.

The Beta Browse is one tool under development. Here you can browse through digitized content by Author, Genre, Repository and Subject Headings. Genre and Subject Headings are particularly revealing; both give a really good sense of what’s in the broader Wellcome Library collections. The Toggle-a-Tron is a clever little link that activates library catalogue information on digitized content pages. When you choose to ‘Turn player data on’, a cookie is set in your browser. By doing so, you can see more information about a digitized item and follow the links into other digitized items with the same subjects, genres, authors, and more. After you’ve had a go with the experimental tools in the Sandbox, let us know what you think. We’re always looking for feedback on our websites, and these experiments are no different. Drop us a line at LibraryWebEditorial@wellcome.ac.uk with any thoughts or comments.


There are around eight million migraine sufferers in the UK today. This Witness Seminar looked at the last 50 years of research into the diagnosis and treatment of the condition and the changing attitudes of the medical profession towards this debilitating disorder. Chaired by Dr. Mark Weatherall, the participants, some of whom were also migraine sufferers, included neurologists and pharmacologists, representatives from patient organizations such as Migraine Action and the Migraine Trust, and GPs and headache nurses.

The discussion covered the vascular and neuronal theories of migraine, the early treatment with
ergotamine, analgesics and antiemetics, and investigations into the importance of 5-HT. It then moved on to examine the scientific research behind the development of the triptans during the 1980s and impact of their introduction in the early 1990s. More recent treatments, such as the use of Botox (botulinum toxin), were also considered.

For further details of this and other volumes in the series visit: www.history.qmul.ac.uk/research/modbiomed/wellcome_witnesses.

**OTHER NEWS**

The Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science (SAHMS) invites paper proposals for its fifteenth annual meeting on March 12-14, 2015, at the Marriott Hotel, co-hosted by the University of Mississippi Medical Center, the William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the Mississippi State Medical Association.

SAHMS welcomes papers on the history of medicine and science, broadly construed to encompass historical, literary, anthropological, philosophical and sociological approaches to health care and science including race, disabilities and gender studies. Participants may propose individual papers or panels of several papers on a particular theme.

Each presenter is limited to 20 minutes, with additional time for questions and discussion. Please do not submit papers that have already been published, presented or scheduled for presentation at another meeting. All participants are responsible for their own travel expenses and must pay registration costs in advance of the meeting. Student travel awards are available each year; for more information click on “Student Travel Grant Guidelines” on the SAHMS website, “Future Conferences” page. Students MUST follow these guidelines to be considered. Online submission will be available by August at www.sahms.net. For further information about the program or SAHMS please contact the Program Chair, Philip Wilson, wilsonpk2etsu.edu. Deadline: 30 September 2014.

The forty-first meeting of the History of Dermatology Society was held in Denver, CO on Thursday, March 20th, according to Lawrence Charles Parish, M.D., Philadelphia, president of the Society. This year’s topic was entitled “Physical Modalities in Dermatology: 1870-1975.” The Samuel J. Zakon Lecture was delivered at the annual dinner of the Society on by Dr. Patricia G. Engasser from Atherton, CA. Dr. Engasser’s presentation was entitled “Go West”, reviewing the development of academic dermatology in San Francisco after the middle of the 20th century.

The winners of the Thirty-third Samuel J. Zakon Award in the History of Dermatology were announced. The Zakon Prize was awarded to Chiara Giannelli of Livorno and Emanuele Bartolini of Pisa, Italy for their article “The History of Tuberous Sclerosis Complex—When Skin gives a Clue.” A runner-up prize was awarded to Dr. Martin Kuhar of Zagreb, Croatia, for his article “Eros or ethnos: Pioneering statistical survey on prostitution at the beginning of the twentieth century.”

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. Prospective members should contact Dr. Anthony V. Benedetto at sue@venedettoderm.com.