



# INCIPIIT

HISTORY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES SECTION NEWSLETTER

Volume VII, no. 2, Fall 1995

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

by Stephen Greenberg

Have you ever wondered why we get "messages from the chair," rather than from the person sitting IN the chair? Whatever...

Despite the fact that Summer is supposed to be the slow time of year, I actually have a few pieces of very interesting news.

First, the History of Medicine Division at the National Library of Medicine has a new chief: Elizabeth Fee, formerly Professor of History and Health Policy at The Johns Hopkins University. She holds degrees from Cambridge University and Princeton, and has published extensively on the history of public health in the 20th century. Dr. Fee assumed her new duties at NLM on September 5th.

HMD will also have a new exhibit opening in September, the details of which are outlined in the **History of Health Sciences Activities** section of this newsletter.

Finally, planning continues on the section program for the 1996 Annual Meeting in Kansas City. Tentatively titled "History for the Future: Special Collections on the Information Frontier," the panel will consist of Lois Fischer Black (New York Academy of Medicine), Billie Broaddus (Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center), Sheila O'Neill (HMD/NLM), and Maggie Yax (Wright State University). I hope you all will be able to attend.

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7th  
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS  
ON MEDICAL LIBRARIANSHIP  
WASHINGTON, DC  
MAY 10-12, 1995



95th  
ANNUAL MEETING  
MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
WASHINGTON, DC  
MAY 7-10, 1995  
**MLA**  
**HEALTH  
INFORMATION  
FOR THE  
GLOBAL  
VILLAGE**

## 1995 MLA ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

More than 3,000 health sciences information professionals from over sixty countries -- an all-time attendance record -- gathered at MLA's 95th Annual Meeting held in Washington, D.C. this past May. Held in conjunction with the 7th International Congress on Medical Librarianship, the meeting's theme was "Health Information for the Global Village."

The History of Health Sciences Section Program,

sponsored jointly with the Relevant Issues Section, was entitled "Health Awareness Across the Ages: The Printing Press to the Internet" and consisted of five contributed papers.

**Stephen J. Greenberg**, M.S.L.S., Ph.D., Reference/Collection Access Librarian for the History of Medicine Division of NLM presented "**The Dreadful Visitation: Public Health and Public Awareness in 17th Century London.**" His talk centered on the periodic bouts of plague in the middle of the 1660's. From that crisis grew an understanding of how epidemic disease affected population centers, culminating in the birth of demography, through the work of Sir William Petty and John Graunt, and how the printing press could be used to explain and reassure in times of uncertainty. These themes were explored through an examination of the printed documents (bills of mortality and statistical reports) produced during the mid-17th century, and made generally available to the populace of London and the surrounding countryside.

**Martha E. Stone**, M.S.L.I.S., Coordinator for Reference Service, Treadwell Library, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA presented "**Three French Midwives: Their Influence on the Practice of Obstetrics, 1600-1850.**" The careers of three midwives who flourished in Paris were described. Louise Bourgeois (1563-1638), author of a 1609 text on obstetrics and midwife to the queen of France, introduced new methods of delivery. Marie Lachapelle (1773-1847), part of a Parisian medical dynasty, wrote a three volume textbook on obstetrical care and was director of Hospice de la Maternite. She was the mentor of Marie Boivin (1773-1847), who wrote prolifically on all aspects of obstetrics and gynecology, and was one of the highest regarded midwives in history. Stone examined their influence on obstetrical and gynecologic practices of the French male medical establishment, and compared their type of non-surgical care with that of surgical interventions offered by physicians. Also considered was the role played by religious institutions in midwife education.

**Jodi Koste**, M.A., Archivist, Tompkins-McCaw Library, Medical College of Virginia Campus, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA presented "**Archives: The Bones of the Institution.**" Her talk focused on a recent occurrence at Virginia Commonwealth University which illustrated the enduring value of institutional archives and the important role the library plays in providing access to these unique resources. In April of 1994, construction workers excavating the site for a new medical sciences building on the MCV Campus uncovered human remains in the shadows of the historic Egyptian Building, MCV's home since 1845. The discovery of human bones prompted numerous questions, many of which were ultimately answered by the library's accumulation of institutional archives. The collection of human remains, probably used for instructional purposes, is one of only three of its kind known to exist and will be studied by forensic anthropologists. Their findings in combination with records found in the college archives will reveal a great deal about medical education and practice in antebellum Virginia. Koste reviewed how the library's participation in this activity enhanced the value of this discovery, and emphasized the importance of a professionally managed archival program and the need for medical libraries to consider special collections and archives among their most valued resources.

**Ellen Gay Detlefsen**, M.S., M.A., M.Phil, D.L.S., Associate Professor, School of Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh, PA presented "**Medical Information in the Confederacy: An Exploration of Health Materials Published in the South During the Civil War.**" Her talk was an analysis of Confederate imprints -- materials published in the South during the years 1861-1865 -- which reveal some of the answers to the health information crisis created by the economic blockade. Physicians, medical students, Southern nurses and

housewives, pharmacists, and the Surgeon-General of the Confederate States Army, who had too few manuals for the troops, all struggled with their loss of access to information that hitherto had come from Union or foreign sources. Their struggle produced several new sources. A group of physicians edited the *Confederate States Medical and Surgical Journal*; a botanist published his *Resources of the Southern Fields and Forests*, containing suggestions for which native plants might be substituted for products otherwise unavailable; a housewife put out the *Confederate Receipt Book* with tips on how to make do with substitutes; the Surgeon-General issued circulars for army surgeons; and Southern medical colleges printed revised catalogs. Collectively, these individual rare books provide evidence for a history of health information delivery in wartime that shows both hardship and success in providing access to medical information.

**Katherine Lindner**, M.L.S., R.N., Director, Medical Library, Englewood Hospital, Englewood, NJ, presented "**Yoga -- A 6,000-Year-Old Health Maintenance System: Philosophy, Benefits, and Library Resources.**" Her presentation focused on the rising popularity of this ancient system of postures, breathing techniques, relaxation and meditation methods. She highlighted the philosophy and meaning of Yoga; the stress response and how Yoga helps promote relaxation; the health benefits of Yoga, including information on the benefits to the cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, endocrine, lymphatic, and nervous systems; and Yoga breathing techniques which Lindner taught to the audience. Her slides showed various postures, and she distributed an extensive resource list.

Once again, our program was well-attended and received. We are now looking forward to another success in 1996.

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#### **DATES TO REMEMBER!**

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|-----------------|--|
| Oct. 15, 1995:  | Deadline for submission of abstracts of contributed papers for ALHHS annual meeting (see details on page five)   |
| March 1 1996:   | Deadline for Spring issue of INCIPIT. Send articles or information to: Maggie Yax, Fordham Health Sciences Library, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio 45435; phone 513-873-4075; fax 513-879-2675; e-mail myax@desire.wright.edu |
| May 8, 1996:    | Annual meeting of ALHHS in Buffalo, NY   |
| May 9-12, 1996: | Annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine in Buffalo, NY  |
| June 1-5, 1996: | Annual meeting of MLA in Kansas City, MO   |
| Sept. 1 1996:   | Deadline for submissions to 1997 Murray Gottlieb Prize.  |

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## MINUTES OF THE 1995 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

by Frederic C. Pachman, Secretary-Treasurer

The annual meeting of the HHSS was held at the MLA conference in Washington, DC on May 9, 1995. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Susan Case, HHSS Chair.

Introductions were made around the room. Attendance: Susan Case, Chair; Stephen Greenberg, Chair-Elect; Frederic C. Pachman, Secretary-Treasurer; Maggie Yax, Editor of *Incipit*; Patricia Gallagher; David Stewart; Mary Holcomb; Hannah Fisher; Martha Stone; Donna Trainor; Nancy Vandemate; Maria Feng; Mary Kreinbring; Erich Meyerhoff; Billie Broaddus; and Toby Appel.

**Minutes** of the annual meeting of May 15, 1994 were distributed by Ms. Case, and approved as read. **Treasurer's Report:** Copies of financial statements dated May 1994 (Barbara Smith Irwin) and May 1995 (Kathryn C. Stevenson) were distributed by Ms. Case. Balance as of May 1, 1994 was \$1,664.73. MLA paperwork was passed along to Mr. Pachman, additional paperwork and a check were to follow from Ms. Stevenson. **Section Council Representative:** Ms. Yax reported on Section Council activities, positive response to the multiple section programming, need for a history of the HHSS for the MLA Centennial, and issues concerning equipment provided by MLA for programs at conference. Ms. Case commented on the potential for adapting some of the HHSS programming to continuing education classes offered pre- or post-conference. The possibility exists to provide basic archival and "how to" training for annual meeting attendees. **Incipit:** Ms. Yax commented that it is a budget issue (printing and mailing costs) should we desire to circulate the newsletter to members of AHSLD. She requests further help from members to write articles about their libraries and other history activities for the newsletter, and hopes that members will contact her regarding articles and topics they would like to see covered in *Incipit*. Deadline for the next issue is September 1, 1995. **MLA Centennial:** Ms. Case commented on the proposed HHSS history in conjunction with the 1998 centennial celebration in Philadelphia. Ms. Broaddus commented that some of the oral history records are "fascinating and excellent listening." Dr. Greenberg noted that the National Library of Medicine houses the archives of the MLA. **NLM - History of Medicine Division:** Ms. Case commented on her letter to NLM Director, Dr. Donald Lindberg, and his response noting that no change in the Division's status was anticipated. Ms. Case noted that MLA fact sheets actively support NLM's history activities. Discussion followed from the membership with information on the status of history collections in other institutions. **HHSS Brochure:** Ms. Trainor passed around samples of the promotional brochure. Numerous compliments were made by the membership; suggestions were to include names of the officers, post the brochure on MLANET, and delete the membership sign-up portion. **1996 MLA Annual Conference:** Invitation from Ms. Case to the HHSS membership to attend next year's meeting in Kansas City. Some excellent programs are anticipated and there will be tours of the Clendening History of Medicine Library at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Dr. Greenberg commented on ideas for programs with the theme "Information Frontier," discussion followed from the audience. Dr. Greenberg will act as Program Chair for 1996 and Ms. Gallagher as Co-chair. **Lane Medical Library, Stanford University Medical Center:** Ms. Feng announced the availability of a database of historical articles and bibliographies on the Internet at "lane-services.stanford.edu". Questions may be directed to Dick Miller. **New Officers:** Ms. Case introduced the new officers and turned the meeting over to Dr. Greenberg. Dr. Greenberg thanked Ms. Case, on behalf of the membership, for her work during the past year.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

The Archivists and Librarians in the History of Health Sciences invites members to submit abstracts for the program portion of the annual meeting in Buffalo on May 8, 1996. The program will consist of contributed papers, each 15 minutes in length, with time allotted for an introduction and questions. Appropriate topics would deal specifically with archival and library-related issues, such as the solution to a problem in the collection (handling of audiovisual materials), a special project (documenting the AIDS epidemic), a process (setting up digital scanning), policies (video filming in special collections rooms), library exhibits, preservation (especially practical repairs and care of books), the librarian/bookseller relationship, guides to collection development, and works-in-progress.

Abstracts must be typed, double-spaced, and should not exceed 500 words in length. They should contain a statement of purpose, major points, and a conclusion. Please include the author's name, the institutional affiliation, preferred mailing address, and both work and home telephone numbers. Deadline for receipt of abstracts is October 15, 1995. Please submit to the Program Committee Chair:

Suzanne Porter  
DUMC Library  
Box 3702  
Durham, NC 27701  
porte004@mc.duke.edu  
FAX: 919-681-7599

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## MURRAY GOTTLIEB PRIZE

The Murray Gottlieb Prize is awarded annually by the Medical Library Association for the best unpublished essay on the history of medicine and allied sciences written by a health sciences librarian. The Gottlieb Prize was established in 1956 by Ralph and Jo Grimes of the Old Hickory Bookshop, Brinklow, MD in order to recognize and stimulate the health science librarian's interest in the history of medicine. The author of the winning essay receives a cash award of \$100 and a certificate at the Association's Annual Meeting.

The deadline for the 1996 award was September 1, 1995. While it is too late to enter this year, it is not too early to begin thinking about the 1997 award. For more information contact: Professional Development Department, Medical Library Association, 6 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 300, Chicago, Illinois 60602-4805. Phone: 312-419-9094. Internet: webb@mlahg.org

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**VIRTUAL PAST, VIRTUAL FUTURE:  
THE THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY ON-LINE ARCHIVAL IMAGE LIBRARY**

by Peter Nelson, M.L.S.,  
University Archivist/Special Collections Librarian, Thomas Jefferson University

Forging into the rapidly expanding frontiers of networked digital technology does not imply a turning away from the past. Far from it! In fact, many exciting new applications of computer technology are now being developed to preserve information about the history of the health sciences and make it accessible to historical research as never before.

One innovative project of this type that is now taking shape is Thomas Jefferson University's On-Line Archival Image Library. Historically significant images, including photographs and drawings, from a collection of over 10,000 items are being systematically scanned and made accessible in a searchable database that will be unveiled on *Jeffline*, the university's campus-wide information system, this fall. (Watch for upcoming announcements or check the *Jeffline* World-Wide Web page at <http://aisr.lib.tju.edu/>.)

At first, the image library will offer access to pictures documenting the University's buildings and facilities -- from the earliest 19th-century clinical and educational settings of the original Jefferson Medical College to more modern features of the Jefferson scene, such as the hospital and biomedical research facilities. In the coming year, some 800 portrait photographs from the Archives will be added too.

Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, founded in 1824, is one of the oldest schools of medicine in the U.S. and one of the largest private medical schools. Its alumni and faculty, including Samuel D. Gross, Robley Dunglison, W. W. Keen, J. Marion Sims and John H. Gibbon, Jr., are well known for their historic achievements. The University Archives' art and photograph collection documents Jefferson's tradition as a powerhouse in American medical education, and also reflects Philadelphia's unequalled position in the early history of the health sciences in America.

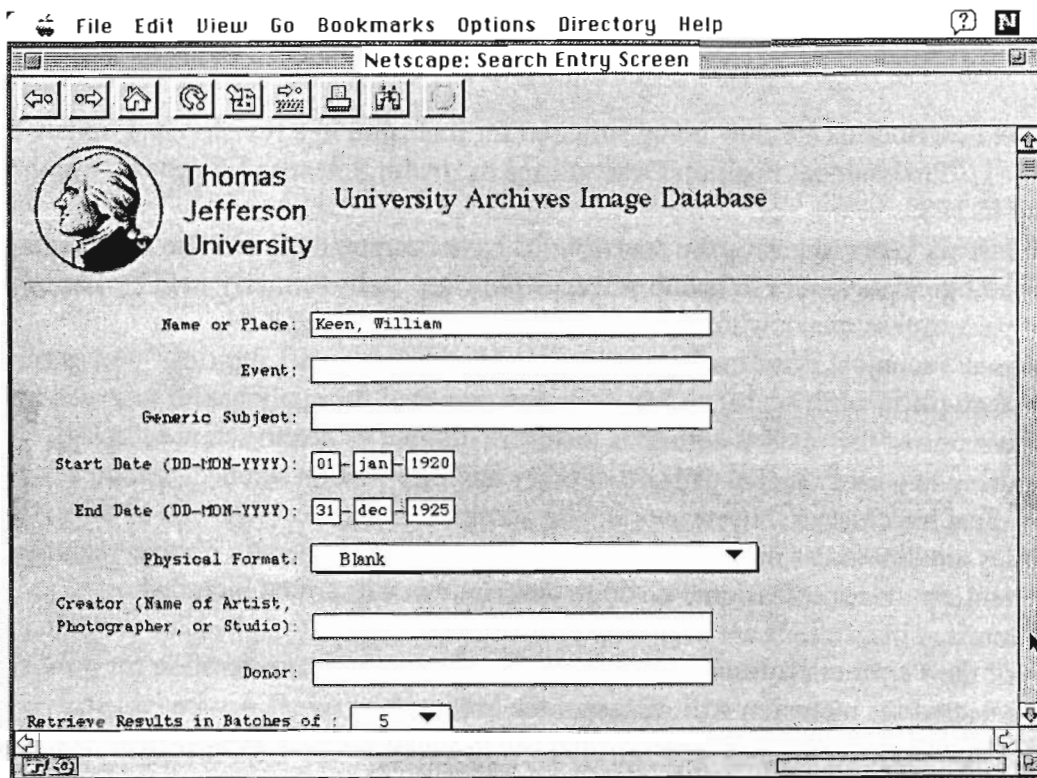
Picture researchers and historians interested in Jefferson's role in the training of doctors and other health care professionals will be able to search the archival image library through a variety of access points (personal name, generic subject, event, location, photographer, etc.). The results can then be viewed on the computer screen as "thumbnail" size digital surrogates accompanied by text descriptions and indexing terms. While the thumbnail image allows searchers to get a general sense of a picture's composition, a full-screen display, with a click of the mouse button, can be called up instantly and provide additional significant details.

The project satisfies an equally important preservation function. The easy accessibility to the on-line photo collection will save wear and tear on the originals, many of which are fragile. And, since the process of creating the digital images includes the creation of film intermediaries, the Archives will also have high-resolution copy negatives at its disposal to satisfy reproduction requests for its images found "on the Web."

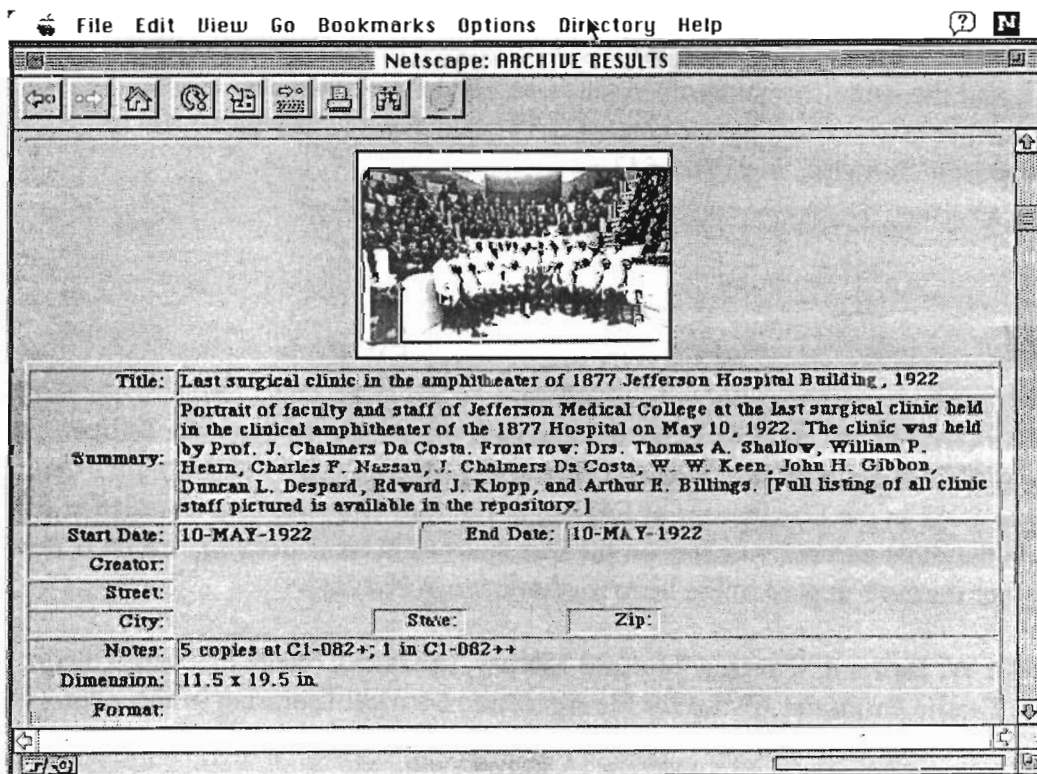
Who says the past is shrouded in cobwebs? At Jefferson, it's a Web of a different sort.

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If you would like to know more about the University Archives Image Library Project at Jefferson, please contact: Peter Nelson, Thomas Jefferson University Archives, Scott Library, 1020 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107, 215-955-7769, [nelson@jefflin.tju.edu](mailto:nelson@jefflin.tju.edu).



Items in the image library are accessible through a search entry screen (top) in which one index term, or several terms simultaneously, can be entered. The results screen (bottom) first presents small, low-resolution images with text descriptions. By clicking on the image area itself, searchers can view a higher resolution full-screen display.



## CALL FOR PROFESSIONAL POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

by Carolyn Weaver

Position descriptions are now being solicited for inclusion in a revision and update of MLA DocKit #1, "Professional Position Descriptions in Health Sciences Libraries," which was first published in 1989.

In the last six years, many of the descriptions have become outdated due to changing roles and technological advances in health sciences libraries. Jobs formerly held by librarians are now filled by paraprofessionals, whose positions are covered by DocKit #4, "Paraprofessional/Technical Position Descriptions in Health Sciences Libraries;" and terminal degrees other than (or in addition to) an MLS are now required for many health sciences library positions. The scope of the revised edition is therefore defined as health sciences library positions requiring any professional degree -- library and information science, computer science, education, medical informatics, business or public administration, etc. -- as well as those for which the duties are defined as professional, e.g., manager of a one-person library, regardless of academic credentials. Paraprofessional position descriptions will not be included.

All interested institutions are invited to submit single copies (originals or very clear photocopies) of their current professional position descriptions for consideration for publication. Descriptions selected for inclusion will represent the broad range of MLA member libraries, from the hospital library with a part-time librarian to the largest academic institution, and will show a diversity of format and content for each type of position. Contributions from corporate, special, and governmental libraries are especially welcomed. Descriptions will be reproduced as submitted except for the deletion of individual names.

Position descriptions should be submitted no later than October 31, 1995 to Carolyn G. Weaver, Associate Director for Administration, Health Sciences Libraries and Information Center, University of Washington, Box 357155, Seattle, WA 98195-7155. To help categorize the descriptions, please indicate whether your library is an academic, hospital, corporate, or other type of institution; the institution's subject specialty; the FTE professional staff and total FTE library staff; and the name, phone number, and email address of a contact person.

For further information, please contact Carolyn Weaver at 206-543-3401 or [cweaver@u.washington.edu](mailto:cweaver@u.washington.edu). Fax: 206-543-8066.

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## SECTION MEMBER NEWS

**Linda Ordogh** has recently been announced as co-winner of the 1995 William Harris and Gertrude Weld Arnold Prize at Harvard University, Boston, MA. The Arnold Prize, established in 1941 in the Department of English at Harvard University, is awarded to the student who submits the most perceptive essay on the true spirit of book collecting. Linda is presently completing her master's degree in the history of science at Harvard.

**David W. Boilard**, Director, Mulford Library, Medical College of Ohio, Toledo, OH, received the Estelle Brodman Award for the Academic Medical Librarian of the Year. This is

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given to a midcareer level academic librarian in recognition of outstanding national or international leadership, research, publication, or service to the profession. Mr. Boilard was instrumental in restructuring the Mulford Library from manual to electronic operation. In addition to directing Mulford, Mr. Boilard teaches Clinical Decision Making in the Department of Family Medicine at the Medical College of Ohio.

**Lucretia W. McClure**, Director Emerita and Associate Professor of Medical Bibliography, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY, received the MLA President's Award. Ms. McClure was honored for her commitment and leadership as MLA's copyright referent and for her efforts to preserve the fair-use rights of libraries and educational institutions in the National Information Infrastructure.

**Lucretia W. McClure** published an article in the June 1995 issue of *Academic Medicine* entitled "Who Needs History?" This article eloquently defends medical history collections and is one to be shared with library administrators, faculty, and all who have influence on the future of our collections.

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## HISTORY OF HEALTH SCIENCES ACTIVITIES

### Exhibits

**"Potions, Pills, and Purges: The Art of Pharmacy"**, an exhibition of works on paper related to the pharmacy profession in the United States, Europe, and Japan is currently at the Philadelphia Museum of Art until October 29, 1995. It is mounted in conjunction with the 175th anniversary of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, the oldest pharmacy school in North America.

The History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine's new exhibit is entitled **"Allopaths, Maharajas, and Vaidyas; Nizams, Jams, and Hakims: Medical Pluralism in the Princely States of India."** Drawing from material in the collections of Kenneth X. Robbins, M.D. and NLM, the exhibit focuses on medical practices and royal patronage in the hundreds of Indian states ruled by princes until the time of Indian and Pakistani independence. It examines the interaction and co-existence of Western allopathic and homeopathic medical systems with the indigenous Ayurvedic, Siddha, and Unani systems, along with the traditional and religious healing practices. The exhibit will be on display in the main lobby of NLM (NIH Building 38) until December 31, 1995.

**"Commemorating Five Decades of International Research: An Exhibit Highlighting the Accomplishments of the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission"** is on display at the Houston Academy of Medicine -- Texas Medical Center Library until November 1, 1995

**"Modern Medicine Comes of Age: Technology and the Medical Trade Catalog, 1830-1930"** is showing at the New York Academy of Medicine from October 2 through December 22, 1995. This exhibition tells the story of the growth of medical technology through a selection of heavily illustrated medical trade catalogs. It is on view in Woershoffer Hall, the main reading room of the Library.

### Events

The **Clendening History of Medicine Library at the University of Kansas Medical Center** will celebrate its 50th Anniversary with a weekend of special events October 7-8, 1995. Festivities will include lectures, tours, and receptions. For further information, please call, email or FAX Susan B. Case: telephone 913-588-7040; FAX 913-588-7060; email [suzcase@ukanv.bitnet](mailto:suzcase@ukanv.bitnet)

The **Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center**, in conjunction with Heloisa Sabin, celebrated the birthday of the late Albert B. Sabin, M.D. on August 25, 1995. An exhibit documenting the history of polio included an iron lung, Dr. Sabin's discovery of the live oral polio vaccine in Cincinnati, and the first showing of the Sabin medals, awards, and honors from around the world. Speakers included Henry R. Winkler, Ph.D., President Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of History and Chair of the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center Advisory Board; the Honorable Roxanne Qualls, Mayor of Cincinnati; Michael R. Barrett, Vice Chairman, University of Cincinnati Board of Trustees; William K. Schubert, M.D., President and CEO of Childrens Hospital Medical Center; and Saul Benison, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of History and Professor of Environmental Health, University of Cincinnati. Approximately 120 persons attended the celebration.

The **New York Academy of Medicine** presented "A Tribute to Saul Jarcho and His Contribution to the History of Medicine" on June 23, 1995. The program offered a breadth of significant contributions to various aspects of the history of medicine and the insights of a great physician-scientist-historian through his writings and his work. Following lunch, Dr. Jarcho was presented with The George Urdang Medal of the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy.

The **Medical History Society of New Jersey** will hold its fall dinner meeting October 18th at the Nassau Club, Princeton. The annual Corporate Lecture, entitled "American Surgery and the Civil War: A Time of Revolution", will be given by Dr. Ira Rutkow. Other papers will include "Non-Surgical Uses of Ether & Chloroform in Mid-19th C. America" by Dr. Donald Kent; "Breeches of Impropriety: Transvestite Women Physicians" by Gretchen Worden; and "The Interface of Jewish, Greek & Arabic Medicine as Exemplified by Three Physicians: Asaph, Maimonides, and Amatus Lusitanus" by Dr. Michael Nevins. For information, contact Lisa Fleischer, Academy of Medicine of New Jersey, 14 Washington Road, Bldg. 1, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550; phone 609-275-1911.

The **Historical Division of the Cleveland Medical Library** announced that this year's Zverina Lecturer will be Jeff Baker, M.D., Ph.D. Dr. Baker is a member of the Department of Pediatrics at the Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina. The title of his

paper is "Scientific Idealism and Social Reality: The Origins of the Premature Infant Nursery." The lecture will be delivered October 23 in the Ford Museum at 8 p.m. For more information, call 216-368-3648.

### News

**Susan K. Rishworth**, History Librarian, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists, Washington, DC, received the 1995 Murray Gottlieb Prize, which honors scholarly contributions by health science librarians to the history of medicine. Ms. Rishworth's winning essay was entitled "Historical Writing about Women, Medicine, and Health: An Historiographic Essay."

**ETC, a database** of component parts complementary to Medline is gradually growing at Lane Medical Library, Stanford University Medical Center. It includes 20,000+ book chapters, articles, and illustrations. History of medicine and medical articles of historical importance are well represented. Records for Index to Medieval Medical Images in North America (IMMI) will be loaded soon. Most materials are held at Lane; the code ACCESS is prominently displayed when this is not the case. To reach ETC: telnet lane.stanford.edu; login as 'guest' and select choice 2; screens explain searching. The file is also available from Lane's Special Collections Web page at <http://www-med/MedCenter/Lane/SpecColl/home.html>. Comments or questions on technical aspects of ETC may be sent to Dick Miller at [dmiller@krypton.stanford.edu](mailto:dmiller@krypton.stanford.edu).

The **Lloyd Library & Museum**, a research collection devoted primarily to pharmacy and botany, especially medicinal plants and the history of their use, is starting a Friends of the Lloyd Library group. For a nominal fee, yet to be determined, Friends will receive a quarterly publication with features, book reviews, lecture series announcements, and other information of the library's ongoing activities. The library and its collection stemmed from the research interests of John Uri Lloyd (1849-1936) and his work in developing his Specific Medicines used by the eclectic practitioners. Because of Lloyd's emphasis on botanics, the library has developed into one of the premier institutions in medical botany. Its resources are both current (including nearly 600 active journal titles) and historic (the oldest book is a 1493 pharmaceutical work from Italy). For more information about the Lloyd Library and its Friends group, contact Michael Flannery, Library Director, Lloyd Library & Museum, 917 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202; email: [Michael.Flannery@UC.Edu](mailto:Michael.Flannery@UC.Edu).

A **new course** is being offered at the **University of Cincinnati**. Scheduled for the Evening College program, An Introduction to the Social Transformation of Cincinnati Medicine 1788-1880, will be introduced by George Hoffmann, Ph.D. and will feature local historians as guest speakers. The Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center (CMHC) will serve as the resource library for the course. This is a new venture for the CMHC and it is hoped increased interest in the history of medicine in Cincinnati will be a result. Since Dr. Saul Benison retired as Professor of History at the University of Cincinnati no classes have been offered in the history of medicine at the university.

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INCIPIT is the newsletter of the History of Health Sciences Section of MLA. Membership in the Section includes a subscription to the newsletter. HHSS promotes interest in the History of the Health Sciences within MLA and is a vehicle for news and communication with the Section.

Section Officers:

Chair

Stephen J. Greenberg, Ph.D.

Council Representative

Barbara Van Brimmer

Section Council Alternate

Maggie Yax

Secretary/Treasurer

Frederic C. Pachman

Editor: Maggie Yax

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