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WATERMARK

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

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EDITOR:
 Stephen E. Novak
 Augustus C. Long Health Sciences Library
 Columbia University Irving Medical Center
 New York, NY
 sen13@cumc.columbia.edu

LAYOUT EDITOR:
 Brooke Fox
 Waring Historical Library
 Medical University of South Carolina
 Charleston, SC
 foxeb@musc.edu

BOOK REVIEW EDITOR:
 Patricia Gallagher
 patriciaegallagher@gmail.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR:
 Jack Eckert
 Retired
 jack.eckert1@gmail.com

MeMA NOTES EDITOR:
 Tegan Kehoe
 Paul S. Russell, MD, Museum of Medical
 History & Innovation
 Massachusetts General Hospital
 Boston, MA
 tkehoe@mgh.harvard.edu

ASSOCIATE BOOK REVIEW EDITOR:
 Sharon Butcher
 sbutchermls@gmail.com

**Submissions for the Watermark:**

The Watermark encourages submissions of news and stories about events, collections, catalogues, people, awards, grants, publications, and anything else of professional interest to the members of ALHHS. Please submit your contributions in a timely way to Stephen Novak, as e-mail attachments.

Visuals should be submitted as jpegs with a resolution of at least 100 dpi if possible. Copyright clearance for content and visuals are the responsibility of the author.

Cover Image: Battlefield wound drawing by Civil War surgeon Daniel Young, one of the treasures of the Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions. See page 6.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Our members must have had an unusually recuperative summer since the number of submissions for the fall issue – the one issue that's always a bit worrisome since we don't have the built-in copy that the annual meeting generates – have been gratifying high. While we have reports from our usual suspects, there are also many from repositories we rarely hear from. In particular, this issue's Repository Profile of the Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions at the University of Cincinnati shows an impressive range of holdings and activities. I remain awed by the energy, imagination, and dedication exhibited by our members in their roles as custodians, promoters, and explicators of these important collections.

And, speaking of members, as you must know by now ALHHS and MeMA have decided to merge, and the process is well underway. What does this mean for *The Watermark*? Is its current name too restrictive now that we have incorporated the museum professionals of MeMA? Perhaps a naming contest is required?

Obviously, there are many more important things to sort out in this ongoing merger before we can decide what to call the new organization's newsletter, but you can be sure I'll be raising it with Melissa and Stefanie before long.

Good reading!

Stephen Novak

Editor

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FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Happy fall everyone!

Since the momentous vote to bring MeMA and ALHHS together, there has been a flurry of behind the scenes work to make everything officially one organization. Taking recommendations from the task force report issued in March, our Treasurers updated the listserv and are working to combine the financial aspects of the organization. Our Secretary carefully revised the

directory and issued a new version to members. Our Steering Committee engaged a Massachusetts lawyer, who graciously agreed to work pro-bono, to revise our bylaws to fit both the organization's needs and the legal requirements for incorporation and in keeping with our non-profit status. These bylaws will go out soon for a vote along with the top three choices of a name for our combined organization, based on the results of the last vote in July. Keep an eye on the listserv for information on the vote!

Since July, a web task force, co-chaired by Sarah Alger and Beth DeFrancis Sun, along with former webmasters Dominic Hall, Russell Johnson, and Patricia Gallagher and Lucy Ross, have been creating a blueprint towards a thoroughly revamped website for the new organization. Sarah and Beth recently submitted the report to the Steering Committee, which we hope to share with the larger organization. We wanted to thank them for the excellent and quick work on the report.

Finally, Melissa issued a call for volunteers to fill the committees for the annual meeting, various awards and scholarships, and nominations. Thank you all for the amazing response! We had enough volunteers to fill the committees and then some, including a number of newer members who stepped up to join for the first time. These committees will help us document our policies and procedures for the combined organization, as many of our manuals are quite outdated. We may also call on the collective knowledge of past committee chairs to help edit these documents.

We recognize this is a big year of change and appreciate all the hard work and patience from our community as we negotiate the various steps. Together we are stronger!

Best to all of you,

Melissa Grafe and Stefanie Crumpton*

Presidents of the former ALHHS/MeMA

*Photo currently unavailable. She promises a head shot for the winter issue!

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REPOSITORY PROFILE

The Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions, University of Cincinnati

The [Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions](#) is an archive, library, and exhibit center dedicated to documenting the history of the health sciences not just regionally, but by virtue of its many collections, nationally and internationally.



Winkler Center's Hauck Gallery Entrance

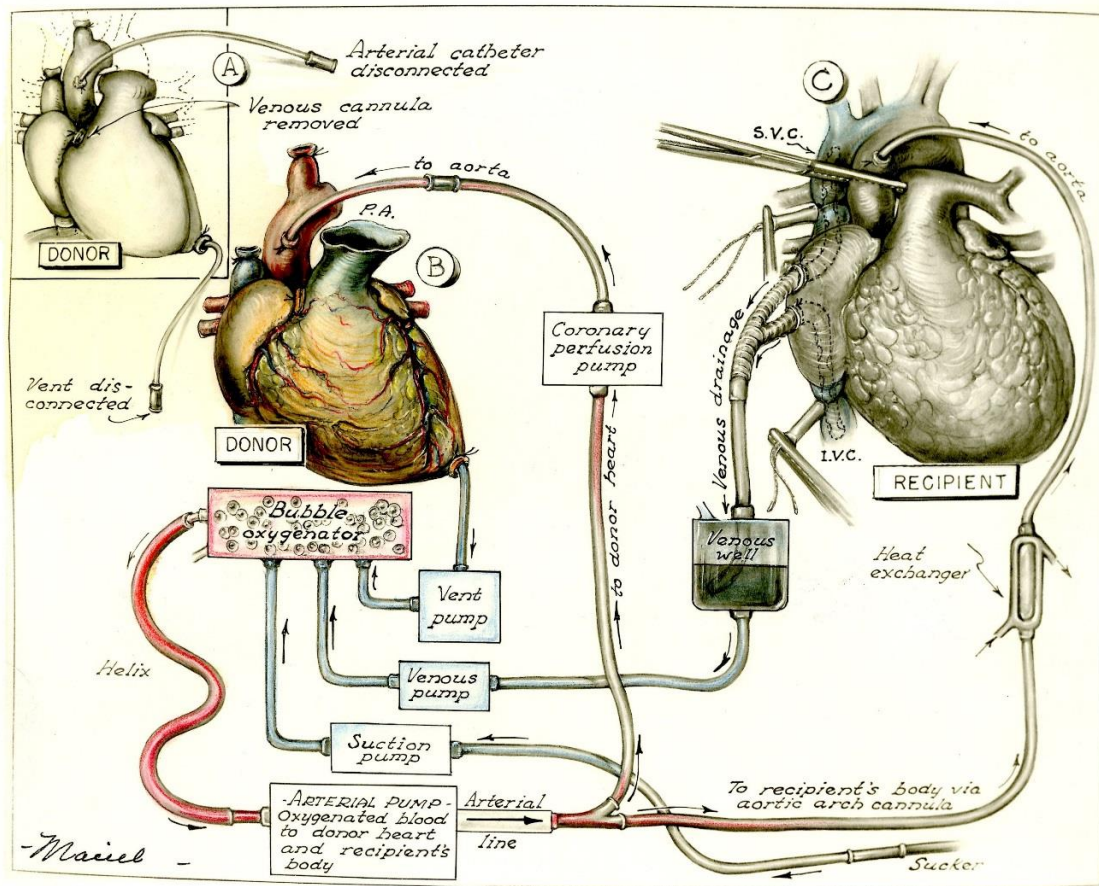
The Winkler Center's namesake, Henry R. Winkler, PhD, University of Cincinnati President (1977-1984), seen at right, was a European historian by trade and a medical historian by avocation. For many years, he served as the chair of the advisory board of the Center that would later bear his name.

The Winkler Center encourages visitors and researchers to explore through words, images, and objects, the spirit and history of health science innovation, and to discover the many individuals who contributed to world-changing advances in medicine, nursing, and pharmaceutical and allied health sciences.



Researchers share in Albert Sabin's "aha" moments as they leaf through the research notebooks he compiled while searching for a cure for polio; see up close the suffering experienced by Civil War soldiers by holding in their hands the battlefield wound sketches drawn by Civil War surgeon Daniel Young; and encounter the lives and careers of generations of local medical practitioners and University of Cincinnati health professions thinkers and doers through documents, photographs, and memorabilia.

Collections



Heart transplant illustration from the Mary Maciel Papers: Maciel, a medical illustrator who trained under Max Brödel at Johns Hopkins University, founded and served as the first chair of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Medical Illustration Department.

The Winkler Center is fortunate to have amassed an impressive collection crossing a wide array of health disciplines and eras. It began with the accumulation of the libraries of Dr. David A. Tucker, Dr. Daniel Drake (founder of the UC College of Medicine in 1819), the Cincinnati General Hospital rare book room, UC faculty, area physicians, and

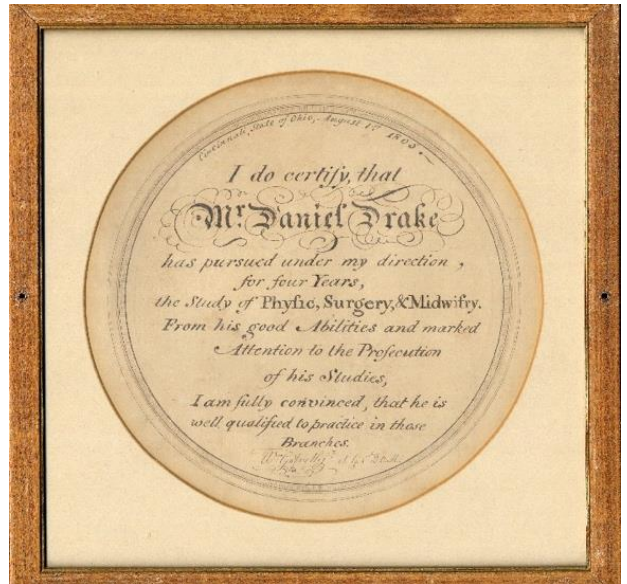
medical researchers – people who had a distinct vision of the importance of preserving medical history.

The collection has grown to include journals, archives, photographs, instruments, and artifacts relevant to the Winkler Center's mission. These assets, cared for by a professionally trained archivist/curator, are available for study by researchers of every level.

The Winkler Center is dedicated to providing access and exemplary research services to the campus community, the local community, and the world. From grade school students to filmmakers, from doctors and nurses to pharmacists and nutritionists, from family historians to medical history enthusiasts, and from community historians to international scholars, equal access is provided to all. And myriad individuals access the collections each year.

Highlights of the collection include:

- Over 35,000 rare and classical works in the history of the health sciences dating from 1500 to 1920.
- More than 2,000 medical artifacts and instruments, and 5000 photographs.
- Over 50 archival collections including the papers of [Dr. Albert Sabin](#), Dr. Robert A. Kehoe, Dr. Leland C. Clark, and Dr. Henry Heimlich.
- A g-standing [oral history program](#) containing over 60 interviews with numerous health profession luminaries.
- The [Cantagalli Ceramics](#): A 1900 Paris World Exposition exhibit of reproduction 15th century Italian apothecary jars.



The first medical diploma issued west of the Allegheny Mountains – given to Daniel Drake after four years of apprenticeship with Dr. William Goforth. In 1819, Drake founded what would become the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Reference

In addition to the archivist/curator, the Winkler Center also employs 3-4 work study and student workers each semester all overseen by the Director of the Donald C. Harrison Health Sciences Library. This staff handles thousands of requests annually for research, photographs, and information for use in a wide range of media, including books, articles, documentary films, etc. The Winkler Center provides quality reference services to both in-person and remote researchers and access to its historical materials in a supervised research room.

Outreach

Its outreach efforts include public programming, guest lectures, exhibits, tours, scholarly publications, and social media. Each year the Center produces the [Cecil Striker Medical History Society Annual Lecture](#) which focuses on some aspect of health history. The



Drs. Phillip Diller and Robert Rakel discuss the connections between Daniel Drake and Sir William Osler.

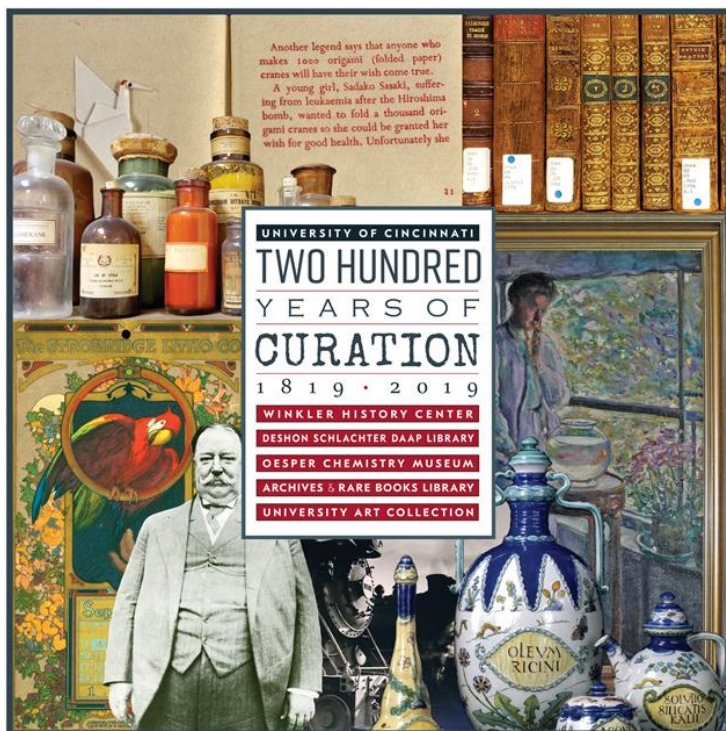
corresponding exhibit supplements the lecture's theme. Hundreds attended the 2019 lecture and exhibit opening titled *Daniel Drake's Connection to William Osler: Celebrating Two Medical Education Reformers*.

Primary source workshops and tours for classes across campus are also on the list of the Winkler Center's outreach activities, and numerous instructors utilize the Center's resources for their classes. These courses include public health, medical history, medical humanities, urban studies, women's studies, and many more.



Attendees at the Striker Lecture Exhibit.

Currently, there are two notable events on the Winkler Center's outreach calendar. The first is the Albert B. Sabin Laboratory Notebook Digitization Project



Lecture Series. In 2016, the Winkler Center received a gift from The John Hauck Foundation to digitize selections of Sabin's laboratory notebooks. With the digitization process over, the Center is producing a lecture series to close out the project. The keynote event and exhibit opening will be on October 10, 2019, and will feature as its main speakers, Larry J. Anderson, MD (Emory University) and Karen Torghele, MPH (David Sencer CDC Museum). After the

evening keynote and reception the following three weekly lectures will take place at the Winkler Center over the lunchtime hour focusing on Sabin, his research, and virology in general.

In addition, the Reed Gallery at University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP) for the first time featured UC Libraries' numerous special collections libraries in a gallery-wide exhibit. The exhibit, "200 Years of Curations, 1819-2019," opened Wednesday, September 18th and runs through December 31st.

On display from the Winkler Center are an "iron lung," pieces from its Cantagalli Ceramics Collection, an early X-ray (c.1900) of conjoined twins with two-heads, and a series of New York City Health Department venereal disease posters from the 1970s, just to name a few items.

The Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions is open Monday through Friday 8AM-5PM by walk-in or appointment. Please phone 513.558.5120 or email chhp@ucmail.uc.edu for any questions, comments, or research requests. We look forward to hearing from you.

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MEMA NOTES

Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm Unveils New Country Doctor Tour and Exhibit



The Captain Enoch Remick House is a roughly 211-year-old home on the grounds of the Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm, a working farm and historic farmstead nestled in the foothills of New Hampshire's White Mountains. The house has been open seasonally for public tours since the 1990s, but in recent years, these tours have been poorly attended and received a polite – but seldom enthusiastic – response from visitors. For the 2019 season, the Museum's curator revamped the tour experience entirely, narrowing the interpretive scope in favor of a more in-depth exploration of the home's medical history component.

Dr. Edwin Remick and his son, Dr. Edwin Crafts Remick, served the community in and around Tamworth, New Hampshire, for a combined 99 years, from 1904 to 1993. The inspiration for the new tour experience was the recognition that this story was the most unique aspect of the home – in fact, Remick is the only country doctor museum in New England and one of just a few in the entire United States. The tour was rebranded the [Country Doctor Tour](#), and the route restricted to only those rooms relating to the country doctor practice. Remick's curator created an oversize, wall-mounted timeline of medical history, which helps provide context for the practice of the Drs. Remick; each tour now begins with an overview of that timeline. While the core medical office remains unchanged, small curatorial details – a mannequin in a lab coat, reproduction medical records (with identifying information redacted) – add visual and interpretive richness to the experience. The tour script has been reworked to focus on just a few themes: infectious disease and vaccination, cradle-to-grave healthcare, and the shift from home and patent remedies to mass-produced commercial drugs. Perhaps the most radical change was the installation of a “pop-up” medical exhibit in the home's underutilized dining room. Following the guided house tour, visitors now have free time to explore this fascinating display of thematically-arranged archives and medical equipment, which had previously languished in storage.

As the inaugural season of Remick's Country Doctor Tour draws to a close, staff look forward to collecting and analyzing visitor data to gauge its reception. As of this writing, the response is overwhelmingly positive. Please stay tuned for updates in years to come!

Faithe Miller Lakowicz

Curator, Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm
Tamworth, NH

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FEATURE ARTICLE: WHAT REALLY HAPPENED...MOSTLY

(NB - The opinions in this piece are solely those of its author, and not of any parent institution)

In 1824, in the preface to the first of his many, many books, the German historian Leopold von Ranke wrote the following:

To history has been assigned the office of judging the past, of instructing the present for the benefit of future ages. To such high offices this work does not aspire: It wants only to show what actually happened [*wie es eigentlich gewesen*].

What this sentence was meant to convey has been the subject of much discussion, and there are few historians today who would believe that such accuracy and objectivity are even remotely possible. We carry our baggage in, and we carry it back out. Modern historians may use the tools of the hard sciences (big data, heavy duty computational firepower, etc.) to approach objectivity, but after hours, they all know the existential futility of their quest. After all, who selects what is to be studied and measured, and how are those decisions made? What do we put in, and what do we leave out? The best we can hope for is to be reasonably aware of our prejudices. But at least we know not to mess with our sources.

With all this understood, what then is to be said about such an endeavor as Peter Jackson's truly astonishing (and astonishing can be a value-free word) documentary film about the First World War, *They Shall Not Grow Old?* The film, directed by Jackson, produced by him and Clare Olsson, and distributed by Warner Brothers, was released in this country late in 2018 on a very limited basis. Only in the spring of 2019 did it become

more widely visible in theaters and through streaming services. This is a somewhat unusual way to distribute the work of a well-known director (Jackson is most famous for his six J.R.R. Tolkien films), but *They Shall Not Grow Old* is a very unusual film. As Jackson relates the story in the explanatory featurettes that precede and follow the main film (apparently these sections are shown in some theaters, but are not included in the streaming video release), he was given access by the Imperial War Museum and the BBC to 100 hours of contemporary original film footage of the war, and 600 hours of oral history recordings from the 1960s. Jackson's task was to make something new. It was, after all, the centenary of the outbreak of the war, and there has for a long time been a suspicion that, in some odd way, the First World War had been "forgotten," and was certainly overshadowed by the Second. Jackson's job, for which he was uniquely qualified, was to make history from a century ago accessible to a modern audience. He clearly took up the task with alacrity and considerable resources. The results are stunning, and, for historians, archivists, and librarians, not a little disquieting.

The first step was simple restoration. The footage was dirty, scratched, inconsistently exposed, and had the herky-jerky movement inherent in hand-cranked cameras and projectors. The "real" Great War should not look like a Charlie Chaplin two-reeler. Jackson's team cleaned up the film and the ragged exposure. More importantly, they standardized the projection speed, so the motion seems fluid and natural. In the streaming video release, the first twenty-five minutes of the film are projected at the original aspect ratio with only minimal restoration. Suddenly the image expands to fill a modern wide-screen, the motion looks easy and modern, and there is color.

Colorization has had a bumpy history, and involved some colorful (sorry!) characters such as John Huston and Ted Turner, and some really questionable decisions (making Frank Sinatra's famous blue eyes brown in the movie "Suddenly," released in black and white in 1954, but colorized in 1986). Jackson's use of colorization is relatively restrained and can boast of a considerable amount of research. Khaki and field grey uniforms are fairly simple, since Jackson has a personal collection of Great War memorabilia. The documentaries also say that he toured the battlefield sites to document the various colors of the grass. Skin color must have been a challenge: the ruddy tan of a man living outdoors for months on end, or the pallor that must have come from months in cold, smelly, infested seas of mud? The occasional child in a blue or yellow smock is a little jarring with all of the soldiers in their mud-spattered uniforms, but it must have been so. It's what actually happened.

And then there is the sound.

There are really two types of sounds in the film. The first are the oral histories compiled by the BBC in the 1960s. The voices of the veterans are oddly ghostly and remote; they come from a time and space that is distinct from both the original footage and the overall “modern” experience of the film. After all, they were recorded fifty years after the war, and another fifty years has gone by. These men (they are all men) survived the war, but they are all gone now. This version of the past has layers. The oral histories represent a world of their own: very stiff-upper lip, “we did our part for King and country,” a cup of tea made it all better, etc. The worst of the war is not hidden, but fifty years later it can (to some degree) be shrugged off. Many of the soldiers say, in one way or another, that the war was the formative experience of their lives, and they mean it in a positive way. Old men forget, but modern veterans don’t seem to talk that way.

But Jackson’s work with sound goes far beyond these interviews. His technology gives voices to the silent actors in a silent film. You can see the soldiers in the original footage are speaking, but Jackson has resurrected their words. Hiring professional lip readers, his team worked out what the soldiers were saying. Determining regional accents was simple enough; the British Army was largely composed of territorial regiments. Lip-synching was done in reverse. So, the Welshmen sound Welsh, the Londoners sound Cockney. In the most remarkable sequence, an officer is reading from a document in his hands to his troops. The officer is not facing us directly, but his command is listening intently. Jackson and his team were unable to read the officer’s lips, but they know the date of the event (just before a big push), and they know that Headquarters had sent down a letter of encouragement to be read aloud. Is it too much to assume that we are seeing this order being obeyed?

Perhaps it *is* too much, and that’s where doubts and concerns can creep in. What is this newly created, technologically wonderful document, and how are we to categorize it for our collections? Is it a “primary source?” Is it history perfected and edited? Is this fact, or a carefully-orchestrated work of historical fiction; a sort of re-enactment like those done at Gettysburg and Antietam, with sunglasses and SPF50 Coppertone, but minus the blood. Certainly Jackson has succeeded in making the war more “real” at some level, but instead of the layers of time that separate us from “what actually happened,” there are layers of technology. Cleaning something up is one thing; adding a hypothetical voice or color is quite another.

Librarians need to be aware of the sources of their sources, and we’re usually pretty good at that. We know not to trust predatory journals, or supposedly peer-reviewed

articles that are no more than commercials for Big Pharma. Our patrons depend upon our role here. No one is suggesting that Peter Jackson has any nefarious intent, but the item he created is really neither fish nor fowl, not quite “fact” and not quite fiction. And, if the film is commercially and/or critically successful enough, there will be more to follow. Perhaps the technology will be created to animate still images from the Civil War or the Crimea (the first war to have an extensive photographic record). With CGI, that technology is probably already here. What then will be the results? Can we trust them enough to recommend them to our patrons?

The prologue and epilogue that I saw should be included in every release of this film, but currently they are not. That is unfortunate, since they both reveal exactly how the film was made, and what a labor of love it was for Jackson. This is, as said earlier, a remarkable accomplishment, and one of which Jackson can be rightly proud. However, it should not be construed as history as it “actually happened.” For better or worse, history is a subjective business, as is film-making, and the hardest decision is always what to include in the frame, and what to leave out. As librarians, we don’t make that choice, but we do need to be aware, and make our patrons aware, that choices have been made. It may not matter, but what if that smock was actually green?

Stephen Greenberg, MSLS, PhD

Section Head, Rare Books and Early Manuscripts
History of Medicine Division
National Library of Medicine

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MEMBER PROFILES

Name: Elisabeth Brander

Member of ALHHS since: 2013

Hometown: Milwaukee, WI

Current Employer and Position: Rare Book Library at
Bernard Becker Medical Library, Washington University in St. Louis

Education: Oberlin College, BA in East Asian Studies; University of Maryland – College Park, MLS and MA in History

Professional interests: I'm very interested in the practical side of early modern medicine and always find time to search through old recipe books, distillation manuals, and surgical texts to learn about what specific treatments were used for various ailments. Outreach and instruction is another area I'm passionate about – I love watching other people get excited about primary source materials and the stories they tell.

Other facts, interests, or hobbies: I'm currently pursuing an MFA in Creative Writing through the University of Southern Maine. I tend to write a mix of historical fiction, horror, and fantasy. Aspects of medical history have occasionally found their way into my stories! I also love to travel and have an ever-expanding list of places to visit – I probably won't get to them all, but it's good to have dreams.



Name: Lincoln Cushing

Member of ALHHS since: 2018

Hometown: Berkeley, CA

Current Employer and Position: Kaiser Permanente archivist and historian

Education: Master's in Information Management, UC Berkeley

Professional interests: Affordable digital imaging; digital asset management systems; intersection of social justice, labor, and public health.

Other facts, interests, or hobbies: I'm a lifelong motorcyclist and scholar of 20th century political posters. This is a second career for me; I worked in the printing industry until I wanted to build visual arts databases. I'm thrilled to work for a health care organization with a powerful and rich history – I get to research, write, and present about the radical concepts of a prepaid health plan and group practice serving the American public since before World War II. Our roots in industrial medicine meant that our facilities were never segregated; one of our physicians is considered the "father of medical

informatics”; and we have a presence in the Rosie the Riveter WWII / Home Front National Historical Park nearby in Richmond. How cool is that?



Name: Katie Lattal

Member of ALHHS since: 2017

Hometown: Muskegon, MI; currently living in Chicago. Fun fact: I've lived in every state that borders Lake Michigan! (unequivocally the best lake)

Current Employer and Position: Special Collections Librarian, Galter Health Sciences Library & Learning Center, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Education: BA in Classics, University of Notre Dame; MA in Classics, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Two stints at Rare Book School and eager to return.

Professional interests: My current professional goals are to learn all I can about special collections care and organizational systems and put that into practice in my collection. Most recently that has been to research and coordinate a collection move before a renovation; deal with the aftermath of burst pipes; organize and manage a disordered collection; institute a system for processing archival and object collections; and much more.

In the near future I plan to turn the department more toward outreach and engagement activities such as classes, small exhibitions, and special events. Meanwhile, I continue to enthusiastically study the history of the health sciences and the history of the book when I can.

Other facts, interests, or hobbies: Hobbies include teaching myself to sew and quilt, reading, cooking, traveling, and finding the time to do any of the previous while parenting a very active baby boy.

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NEWS FROM THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

NLM Celebrates Acquisition of Selma and Lois DeBakey Papers

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) has acquired the papers of sisters Selma DeBakey (1915-2013) and Lois DeBakey, PhD (1920-2016), pioneers in biomedical communications who used humor as one of their signature teaching techniques. These remarkable women also wrote extensively about the responsibilities of authors, editors, and reviewers and on topics such as literary ethics and etiquette.



The DeBakey sisters were born and raised in Lake Charles, Louisiana, along with their older brother, Michael, who would become a leading cardiac surgeon. Their parents actively fostered their education and encouraged them to attend college.

Selma went to work as an editor at the Alton Ochsner Foundation, then became director of medical communications at the Ochsner Clinic Foundation. Lois earned a PhD in literature and linguistics from Tulane University and then joined the English department at Tulane.

For many years, the sisters helped their brother revise and abstract his medical publication drafts. Concerned that many of his fellow physicians did not write clearly,

Michael (a meticulous writer himself) urged his sisters to draft guidelines and develop courses on concise medical communication.

In 1962, Selma and Lois began teaching the first curriculum-approved communications course ever offered at a medical school, at Tulane. They moved to Baylor College of Medicine in 1968, serving as professors of scientific communications for the next 40 years.

During their distinguished careers, the DeBakey sisters taught communications courses all over the world and served as editors and consultants to many medical journals and publications, such as the *American Heritage Dictionary* and *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Their courses and publications showed scientists and physicians how to write well-organized, coherent prose, free of the jargon and awkward grammar that often characterized medical writing.

As a regent and consultant to NLM, Lois advocated for the use of acid-free, permanent paper within the medical publishing industry to preserve medical records for future generations. She also supported NLM in planning its sesquicentennial in 1986 and helped develop a public communications program to inform the U.S. and the world about NLM's collections and resources.

The papers of Selma and Lois DeBakey encompass more than 800 boxes of materials, including correspondence, course materials, and presentations along with their awards and commendations. The collection also includes cartoons used for their courses as well as audiovisual materials such as Lois's 1981 video lecture, "Doctor, are you speaking in tongues?," now available through the [NLM Digital Collections](#). In this video, she argues that "an intelligent, educated reader should understand the essence of a well-written article no matter how specialized or technical the subject may be."

Rich with such observations and wisdom about biomedical communication and related subjects, the papers of Selma and Lois DeBakey join a [collection](#) of their brother Michael's papers held by NLM. Together, these papers constitute a vast public resource for researchers.

Thanks to a gift from the Michael E. DeBakey Medical Foundation, NLM will be able to support public access to and preservation of the papers of Selma DeBakey and Lois DeBakey. The work will include processing and cataloging the materials, developing a detailed research guide, and curating and digitizing items for the [NLM Digital](#)

[Collections](#). Once completed, the collection will be preserved by NLM and available onsite for generations of researchers.

New Exhibit – *This Lead Is Killing Us: A History of Citizens Fighting Lead Poisoning in Their Communities*

In recognition of National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (October 20-26, 2019), the National Library of Medicine announces [This Lead Is Killing Us: A History of Citizens Fighting Lead Poisoning in Their Communities](#), an online exhibition that opens October 15, 2019.

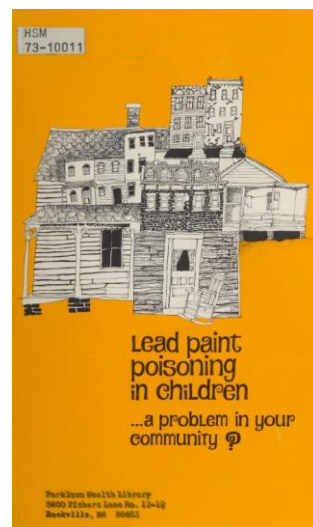
Lead exposure can cause neurological problems and sometimes even death; yet this metal has been pervasive in many aspects of American life for over a century. Industries like mining, battery manufacturing, smelting, and enameling included lead in their production processes, harming factory workers and consumers. Manufacturers added lead to household paints and gasoline, endangering the health of families and polluting the air through exhaust fumes. To protect themselves against the dangers of lead poisoning, scientists, families, and individuals confronted industries, housing authorities, and elected officials. *This Lead Is Killing Us* tells an important story of citizen action taken against this environmental danger.



Occupational health pioneer Alice Hamilton

The online exhibition includes an [education component](#) featuring a new K-12 lesson plan that challenges students to examine historical cases of lead poisoning through primary and secondary sources. A [digital gallery](#) features a curated selection of fully digitized items from the NLM Digital Collections that showcase numerous historical scientific studies and reports about the dangers of lead.

A companion traveling banner exhibition is coming soon. For more information, [join the Making Exhibition Connections listserv](#), a place to learn, share, and find out what's happening and what's new with NLM Traveling Exhibitions.



Lead poisoning awareness brochure, circa 1970s

New Exhibit – World Health Organization: Picturing Health for All

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) announces *World Health Organization: Picturing Health for All*, a special display that opens October 1, 2019.

World Health Organization: Picturing Health for All features a selection of images drawn from the NLM Prints & Photographs collection, which highlights some of the work of the World Health Organization (WHO) in the 20th century. Since the 1950s, the WHO has commissioned accomplished photojournalists to capture the transformative impact health can have on communities worldwide. In recognition of this visual medium's unique

power to inform and inspire, the special display shows how these images can communicate initiatives and developments in health care to the public. The photographs provide an intimate look at health issues around the globe.

This special display coincides with a distinctive history of medicine lecture by Theodore Brown, PhD, entitled "[The World Health Organization's Alma-Ata Declaration of 1978: What Was It Then, Where Is It Now.](#)"

This lecture is in honor and memory of Elizabeth Fee, PhD, former chief of NLM's History of Medicine Division and scholar of the history of the WHO. Professor Brown's lecture takes place on Thursday, October 17, 2019, [a year to the day of Dr. Fee's passing.](#)



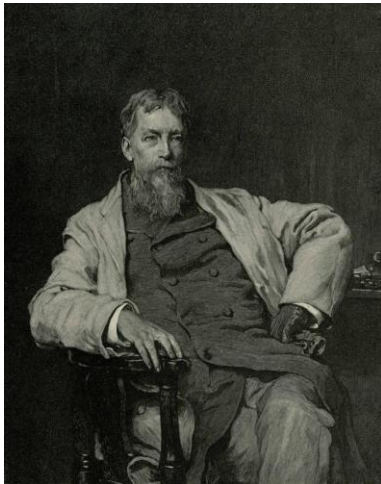
The special display will be available through April 17, 2020, in the History of Medicine Division Reading Room, on the first floor of the National Library of Medicine, Building 38, on the Bethesda, Maryland, campus of the National Institutes of Health.

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REPOSITORY NEWS

NEWS FROM THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA

Research the Rest Cure from the Confinement of Your Bed



The Historical Medical Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia is pleased to announce a major new addition to its digital collections with the online publication of much of our primary source material related to the life and work of Silas Weir Mitchell (1829-1914).

A Fellow and President of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Mitchell was a prominent 19th century physician and writer best remembered for his discovery and description of phantom limb syndrome and, controversially, as the inventor of the rest cure, the basis for Charlotte Perkins Gilman's book *The Yellow Wallpaper*. A complex figure, his true impact on 19th century medicine and culture is still being uncovered.

Presented via a dedicated site, this research portal contains the fully digitized content of three major collections held at the Historical Medical Library: The Silas Weir Mitchell Papers (MSS 2/241-03), The Silas Weir Mitchell Collection (MSS 2/241-04) and the Turner's Lane Hospital case and follow-up studies of peripheral nerve disorders (Z10 40). The digitization and presentation of these materials offers unprecedented access for scholars in the history of medicine and medical humanities as well as the simply curious. You will find the digitized collections at <https://mitchell.cppdigitallibrary.org/>.

We invite you to celebrate not only the release of this collection but also Mitchell's 191st birthday on February 15, 2020, by submitting short-form fiction, essays, commentaries, poetry or drawings that explore the varied aspects of Mitchell's life and work. Select submissions will be posted in a special edition of [Fugitive Leaves](#). Written pieces should be no more than 1300 words long. Submissions must be received by December 13, 2019. For more information, contact Beth Lander, College Librarian/The Robert Austrian Chair, at blander@collegeofphysicians.org.

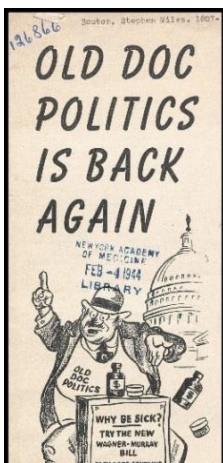
NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY AND CENTER FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH, THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

Upcoming Programming

The New York Academy of Medicine's Banned Book Week Lecture will be held on September 25, 2019. Harvard professor Hannah Marcus will present "Censoring Medicine in the Age of Galileo," a talk that reveals how physicians in Italy read prohibited medical books and maintained their medical libraries in the years following the Reformation and the implementation of *The Roman Index of Prohibited Books* (1559), which banned not only the works of Reformation theologians like Luther and Melancthon, but also made it illegal for physicians in Italy to read many medical books written and published in Northern Europe.

On October 30, 2019, the Academy is co-sponsoring a lecture with the Heberden Society entitled "Doctors Differ: Early Medical Caricature and the Birth of the Comics Form." Jared Gardner, professor at The Ohio State University, will deliver the lecture, which draws upon an exhibition he recently curated at the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, *Drawing Blood: Comics and Medicine*, and which traces the history of comics' obsession with medicine from the 18th century to today.

New Gale Databases



Bouton, S. M. (n. d.). *Old Doc Politics is back again*. New York: Public Relations Bureau Medical Society of the State of New York.

The Library recently partnered with Gale, a Cengage company, to digitize materials for two mass digitization projects: *Public Health in Modern America, 1890-1970*, launched in June 2019 and *Archives of Sexuality & Gender, Part III: Sex and Sexuality, Sixteenth to Twentieth Centuries*, launched in February 2019. Within the past year, the collaboration with Gale has helped the Library to digitize over 6,600 items, which represents almost a million images created.

Public Health in Modern America includes:

The Committee on Public Health of the New York Academy of Medicine – a collection of correspondence, reports, minutes, and documents on the significant work of the committee with New York's health department and leading figures in public health. It is a

collection about the New York Academy's contribution and role in public health at the time.

Library of Social and Economic Aspects of Medicine of Michael M. Davis – a collection of the work of Dr. Davis in the early twentieth century, covering topics such as healthcare, medical economics, social security, legislation, and more.

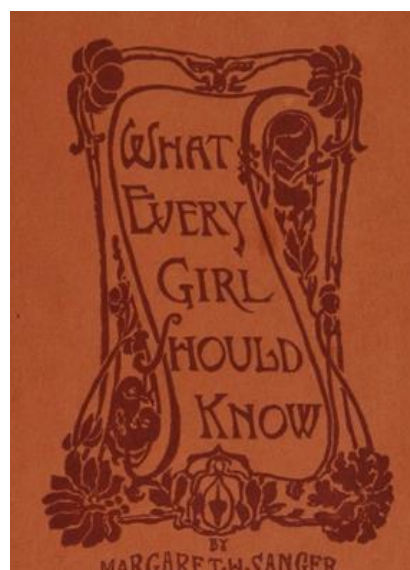
Selected Public Health Pamphlets – over 2,200 pamphlets on various aspects of public health from the late nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century.

Archives of Sexuality & Gender includes:

Monographs – over 1,500 monographs on a variety of topics dealing with sex, sexuality, and gender.

Mary Ware Dennett Case Collection – an archival collection of the court case against Dennett for writing "The Sex Side of Life," a pamphlet about sex for young people.

Correspondence between Eugen Steinach and Harry Benjamin – a collection of over forty years of correspondence about rejuvenation, including letters, postcards, diagrams, and photographs.



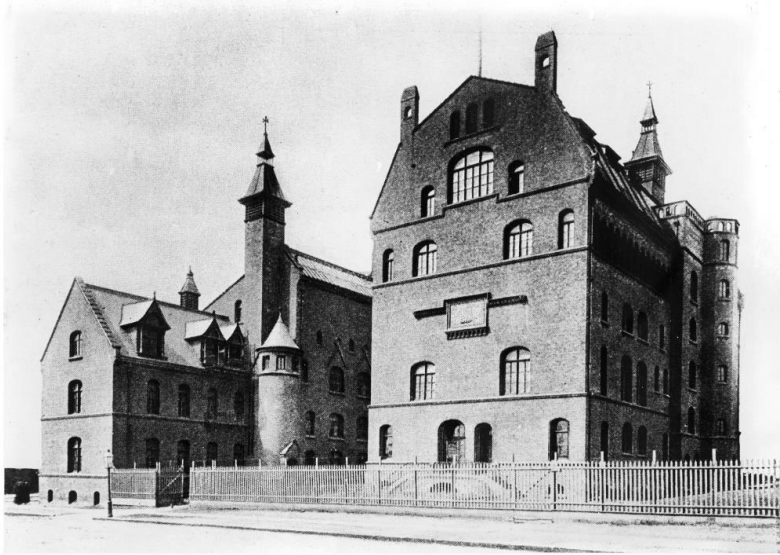
Sanger, M. (1913?). *What every girl should know*. Reading, PA: Sentinel Printing Co.

NEWS FROM THE NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE ARCHIVES

The summer of 2019 was a busy and productive time for the New York Medical College Archives under the direction of ALHHS member Nicholas Webb, MSIS, who joined the staff of New York Medical College in late May as its first full-time archivist.

The focus of the first four months of his tenure has been the establishment of physical and intellectual control over the Archives' holdings, which date back to the founding of the College in 1860 as the Homeopathic Medical College of the State of New York. These holdings cover a wide range of formats and subjects and document several major affiliate institutions in addition to the College itself. A substantial portion of the collection has been rehoused in archival storage to prevent further deterioration, and the Archives'

database of single-level DACS records now contains 109 discrete collections. While



much work remains to be done, a foundation has been laid for the further growth and development of the Archives and its collections.

In addition to the records and publications typically found in a university archives, such as annual reports, course catalogs and periodicals, an inventory of the collections has

uncovered a number of interesting and unique items, including an 1833 manuscript letter by Samuel Hahnemann, founder of homeopathy. The inventory has also identified major gaps in the Archives' holdings that the Archivist will be seeking to fill.

Exhibits were the other main focus of the Archives this fall. The Archivist has produced a number of permanent poster exhibits highlighting the College's history that are now on display around campus. In September, the Health Sciences Library hosted the National Library of Medicine's traveling poster exhibit *Pictures of Nursing: The Zwerdling Postcard Collection*. To accompany the exhibit, a lecture was held on September 18th at which nursing historian Dr. Sandra Lewenson discussed the career of Dr. Frances Reiter, who led the College's graduate school of nursing in the 1960s and is known for coining the term "nurse clinician."

With the initial collection survey largely complete, the next few months will focus on enhancing the public visibility of the Archives and its collections. In the near future, the Archives will be establishing a comprehensive web presence as well as working to update or create accurate WorldCat records for its holdings. Nicholas looks forward to sharing more about these collections with the general public and with his fellow ALHHS members.

Nicholas Webb, Archivist & Digital Preservation Librarian, NY Medical College

Above: *The Flower Hospital on East 63rd Street served as the home of New York Medical College from 1890 to 1936.*

UPDATES FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, LIBRARY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

Exhibit illustrates alchemy's influence on pharmacology and medicine and highlights Library's rare book collections

Little is known about early alchemy but it is thought to have emerged sometime prior to the 4th millennium BC. Though alchemy is often considered part of mysticism and the occult, that is not the whole story. The roots of alchemy are linked to mysticism, but alchemists' observations and experiments during the Renaissance provided a basis for valid scientific experiments and significantly influenced pharmacology and medicine. This influence is displayed in "Alchemy, The Great Work," an exhibit comprised entirely from holdings dating from ca. 1600-1900 from Special Collections and University Archives at the Library of the Health Sciences-Chicago.

Many alchemists during the Renaissance were also physicians and believed that nature contained many substances and objects with useful medicinal qualities and properties. Experiments on the impact of herbs and metals on the body were guided by the idea that biological processes like digestion and circulation echoed the movement of the planets. Alchemists saw the forces of nature as equal to the forces of the human body, and believed these forces could be understood chemically. Portions of plants, animals and minerals could be used to create medicines by the discerning alchemist who was guided by nature, not ancient texts.



Alchemists pioneered distillation techniques to create medicines from mineral substances and plants. Many hypothesized that different diseases, despite presenting similar symptoms, required different treatments. Additionally, some alchemists theorized that contagions in the air could cause disease and that herbal and mineral mixtures can be poisonous or curative depending on the dosage. These ideas and technologies were fundamental to the development of modern pharmacology.

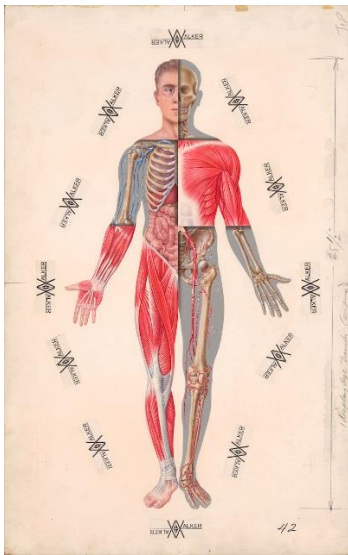
Other scientific developments grew out of alchemists' experiments and observations. Alchemists seeing plants benefit from light and water came to a general understanding that chlorophyll reacted with "something in the air." Jan Baptista van Helmont discovered what came to be called carbon dioxide in about 1640 while burning charcoal to test its properties. The alchemists' findings came to serve as practical examples in many fields, including chemistry, botany, pharmacology and biology. Through this collected knowledge, alchemy has profoundly impacted science. The cryptic language alchemists often used was eventually edited out of the resulting pharmacopoeias, materia medicas and herbals.

Viewers of "Alchemy, The Great Work" will gain a general overview of alchemy and learn about selected famous alchemists and the impact of alchemy on medicine, specifically pharmacology. The oldest book in the exhibit is *loyfull Newes Out of the New-Found Worlde*, printed in 1596. Other notable texts include Nicholas Culpeper's *English Physician and Complete Herbal* (1790), *The Art of Distillation: Or, a Treatise of the Choisest Spagyricall Preparations, Experiments and Curiosities Performed by Way of Distillation* (1664), and *Ortus Medicinae* (1667) by Jan Baptista van Helmont. Two handwritten dispensatories by Edward Stuchlik, a 1904 College of Pharmacy graduate, are also on display. The exhibit consists mainly of rare books, but some illustrations and pharmacology tools are included. Herbals and pharmacopoeias are two strengths of Special Collections' rare book collection. Displaying these texts within the context of the alchemy exhibit allows medical historians and others to appreciate their impact on modern pharmacology and medicine.

"Alchemy, The Great Work" is on display at the Library of the Health Sciences-Chicago on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors and is open to the public during regular library hours through Dec. 2020. For more information, contact Special Collections and University Archives at (312) 996-8977.

Library acquires Paul Peck medical art collection

Special Collections and University Archives is excited to announce the acquisition of the Paul Peck Collection of Medical Art. The collection contains more than 450 pieces of original medical art completed by Paul Peck for at least two medical atlases published by Merck & Co.



Paul Peck began his medical illustration career at New York University, graduating in 1929, and completed graduate training in art education at Columbia University and in gross and microscopic anatomy at the Johns Hopkins Medical School. He served as a chief medical artist in the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General and in the Army Institute of Pathology during World War II. He taught other medical illustrators, while in the service and as a civilian, at New York University, Hunter College, Pratt Institute and the Institute of Adult Education. Peck compiled numerous anatomy, pathology and surgery atlases over his career.

UIC is a fitting repository for Peck's medical illustrations, and students in UIC's College of Applied Health Sciences's Biomedical Visualization (BVIS) program will be able to examine hand-drawn artwork from a prominent practitioner working in the mid-20th century. BVIS, the largest and second-oldest of four accredited programs in the U.S., now incorporates science and technology for animation, gaming and virtual and augmented reality.

Visit Special Collections and University Archives at the Library of the Health Sciences-Chicago to view the Paul Peck Collection of Medical Art.

Megan Keller Young

Special Collections Librarian, Library of the Health Sciences
University of Illinois at Chicago

NEWS FROM UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL

At UNC Chapel Hill: Spotlight on the Carl W. Gottschalk Collection on the Human Kidney

The Carl W. Gottschalk Collection on the Human Kidney is housed at the Wilson Special Collections Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's University Libraries. The collection contains more than 12,000 books, pamphlets, periodicals, illustrated materials, and manuscripts dating from the 16th through the 20th century. Collected by renowned nephrologist and bibliophile Carl W. Gottschalk, this is one of the



many examples of the University Libraries' commitment to documenting the history of medicine. A handful of the many highlights from this distinguished collection includes Rene Descartes's *De homine* (1662), Marcello Malpighi's *De viscerum structura exercitatio anatomica* (1666), Richard Bright's *Reports of Medical Cases* (1827), Simon Gustav's *Chirurgie der Nieren* (1871), Jean Oliver's *Architecture*

of the Kidney in Chronic Bright's Disease (1939), and Willem J. Kolff's *The Artificial Kidney* (1946). The collection, which also includes Dr. Gottschalk's kidney-shaped desk (seen above) and other furnishings, is on display in Wilson Library's Fearington Reading Room. Special tours are available upon request.

The Wilson Special Collections Library also owns a separate manuscript collection of Dr. Gottschalk's writings and illustrations, research materials, biographical materials, and correspondence and related materials, documenting his medical research, teaching career, university administration functions, and other interests such as book collecting. Dr. Carl W. Gottschalk was professor of medicine and physiology at the University of North Carolina's School of Medicine, 1952-1969, and Kenan Professor of Medicine and Physiology, 1969-1992. He served as chair of the Committee on Chronic Kidney Disease, sponsored by the United States Bureau of the Budget, which issued its influential *Report of the Committee on Chronic Kidney Disease* in 1967. He was also known for his *Diseases of the Kidney*, first published by Little Brown in 1988.

Gottschalk was named an American Heart Association Career Investigator and won the North Carolina Medal and the O. Max Gardner Award. In 1970, he received the Homer W. Smith Award from the New York Heart Association; in 1990, the A. N. Richards Award of the International Society of Nephrology; and, in April 1993, the first Robert W. Berliner Award for Excellence from the American Physiological Society. Gottschalk was president of the American Society of Nephrology and a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Institute of Medicine. He died in Chapel Hill in 1997 at the age of 75. His widow, Dr. Susan Fellner,

donated the collection to UNC shortly after his death.

One of Dr. Gottschalk's mentors was the nephrologist Jean Oliver, who bequeathed his professional papers to Gottschalk upon his death in 1976 at age 87. These materials, which include Oliver's original laboratory notebooks and photomicrographs of kidney dissections, are part of the Jean Oliver Papers, also housed at the Wilson Special Collections Library. Oliver's professional honors include the Thomas Addis Memorial Medal of the National Nephrosis Foundation, the Borden Award in Medicine, the Gold Headed Cane award of the American Association of Pathology and Bacteriology, and the Homer Smith award in renal physiology.

Dawne Howard Lucas

Technical Services Archivist, Wilson Special Collections Library
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

NEWS FROM VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Thinking 3D: Visualizing the Brain from the Renaissance to the Present

This September, Vanderbilt's Annette and Irwin Eskind Family Biomedical Library presents [Thinking 3D: Visualizing the Brain from the Renaissance to the Present](#), an exhibition that is part of a collaborative year-long initiative with Oxford University, the University of St. Andrews, and the Royal College of Physicians, London, among others. This international series of exhibitions explores the history of the concept of three-dimensionality and its influence on human perception and technological development.



Vanderbilt's exhibition focuses on the origins of modern neuroscience, exploring human perception through studies and imagery of the brain. From sixteenth-century works of anatomists like Andreas Vesalius to stereograms and three-dimensional models of the human brain, the exhibition examines the ways that physicians, anatomists, and scientists have sought to depict and explain brain anatomy and function.

***Engraving from Rene Descartes. De Homine. (1662).
On loan from Dr. Arthur Lyons.***

The exhibition will feature treasures from Vanderbilt's History of Medicine Collections, as well as several rare items on loan from Vanderbilt alumnus Dr. Arthur E. Lyons, who has one of the world's finest private collections of works on the history of neuroanatomy and neurosurgery. Items from Dr. Lyons's collection include a 1508 edition of Gregor Reisch's *Margarita Philosophica*, Johannes Dryander's *Anatomiae* (1537), and Rene Descartes's *De Homine* (1662). Books from Vanderbilt's collections include Andreas Vesalius' *De Humani Corporis Fabrica* (1555), Govard Bidloo's *Anatomia Humani Corporis*, and English anatomist Thomas Willis's *Cerebri Anatome* (1664). Recent acquisitions to Vanderbilt's collections on display include Sir Humphrey Ridley's *The Anatomy of the Brain* (1695) and a 19th-century papier-mâché brain designed as a teaching model by French physician Louis Auzoux.



The exhibition will run through October 31, 2019. A full list of events and more information about the exhibition are available at <http://vanderbi.lt/thinking3d/>. For more information about the other Thinking 3D exhibitions, please visit <https://www.thinking3d.ac.uk/>

Woodcut from Johannes Dryander. *Anatomiae* (1537). On loan from Dr. Arthur Lyons.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Research Travel Awards at The Osler Library of the History of Medicine.

Deadline for all awards: 10 January 2020.

For More Information: please contact the Osler Library of the History of Medicine, McGill University, [osler.library \[at\] mcgill.ca](mailto:osler.library[at]mcgill.ca) or 514-398-4475, ext. 09873.

The Osler Library offers three research travel awards for those wishing to undertake research at the library; each of the awards can – and usually does – have more than one recipient.

More detailed descriptions of each award can be accessed from the following webpage: <https://www.mcgill.ca/library/branches/osler/awards>

Special note for 2020 applicants: PLEASE TAKE NOTE: the Osler Library will be closed during the summer of 2020 in order to move back to the McIntyre Medical Building, from which it has been displaced since a roof fire in July 2018. Researchers will still be able to access materials via the Rare Books Reading Room in the McLennan Library Building, but this means that successful applicants who intend to come during the summer must know in advance which items they intend to consult, so that they can be set aside in advance of packing. Please reach out to Osler Library staff for more information or to discuss this disruption this may cause to summer research plans.

The Dr. Edward H. Bensley Osler Library Research Travel Grant is available to historians, physicians, graduate and post-doctoral students, and to those interested in the arts and humanities of medical history whose project requires them to travel to Montreal to consult material in the Osler Library. Each year up to \$4,000 in awards will be made to one or more individuals who require a minimum of 2 weeks to carry out their research during the fiscal year, 1 May 2020 - 30 April 2021.

The Osler Library Research Travel Grant is endowed through the generosity of graduates of the Class of Medicine of 1936, and a \$100,000 gift from the Pope-Jackson Fund. The grant recognises Dr. E.H. Bensley's place in the history of the library. A former dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Bensley's later life was devoted to the history of medicine. He was affiliated with the Department of the History of Medicine (forerunner of the present Department of Social Studies of Medicine) and

taught the history of medicine to second year medical students. He also edited the Osler Library Newsletter and wrote extensively. His last book, "McGill Medical Luminaries," was the first title to appear in the *Osler Library Studies in the History of Medicine* series. He was named Honorary Osler Librarian in 1979.

Applicants should fill in the [Osler Library Travel Grant Application Form](#) and email it with their CV to the Osler Library, see email address below.

The applications are considered by a committee which gives preference to specific and clearly described projects. Recipients will be requested to submit a report of their work suitable for publication in the [Osler Library Newsletter](#) and may be requested to give a brief presentation at the University. **Deadline: 10 January 2020.**

The Dimitrije Pivnicki Award in Neuro and Psychiatric History is offered by the Osler Library and the Montreal Neurological Institute and Library to support research in the fields of neuro-history and the history of psychiatry. The award was established in 2012 by the family and friends of Dr. Pivnicki (1918-2007), who practiced and taught psychiatry at the Allan Memorial Institute of McGill University from 1956 to 1996. With degrees in law and medicine, he had a wide and eclectic interest in classic and modern languages and literature and a keen appreciation of the history of neuropsychiatry, an area of scholarship that will be advanced by this award.

The award supports a student or scholar wishing to carry out research utilizing the rich archival and monographic holdings at McGill University, such as the Penfield Archive in the Osler Library, and other resources available at the Osler Library, the Montreal Neurological Institute, and the McGill University Archives. The Osler Library's collections are listed in the [McGill Library Catalogue](#) and the [Osler Library Archives Collection website](#).

The award is open to students at McGill University as well as external students and researchers.

Terms: The value varies depending on the project, to a maximum of approximately \$4,000. The recipient is required to carry out research in Montreal during the 2020-21 fiscal year (1 May 2020-April 30, 2021). The award may be renewable. Recipients should be aware that the award may be subject to tax.

Requirements: We invite applications from a variety of individuals, including graduate students, scholars, and professionals. Recipients are requested to submit a report of


their work suitable for publication in the [Osler Library Newsletter](#) and may be invited to give a brief presentation at the University.

How to Apply: Applicants should download and fill in the [application form](#). Applicants must also submit a CV and a detailed project proposal and arrange for two letters of recommendation, as described in the application. Electronic submissions are preferred. Please send all documentation attached to an email to [osler.library \[at\] mcgill.ca](mailto:osler.library@mcgill.ca). Files should have the name of the applicant, Pivnicki, and the year (e.g. Smith_Pivnicki_2020_application). **Deadline: 10 January 2020.**

Mary Louise Nickerson Travel Grant: Established in 2011, this award is endowed through the generosity of Dr. Granville Nickerson, MD CM 1945, Dip. Pediatrics 1950, in honour and in memory of his wife, Mary Louise, who was an inspiration to many of Dr. Nickerson's classmates of McGill's Medicine Class of 1945, an acknowledged scholar and an enthusiastic promoter of the arts. The award allows a scholar to carry out research using the rich and varied Osler Library collections such as rare books, archives and artifacts, as well as other resources available at the Montreal Neurological Institute and the McGill University Archives. The Osler Library's collections are listed in the [McGill Library Catalogue](#) and the [Osler Library Archives Collection website](#).

Terms: Value varies depending on the project, to a maximum of \$10,000. More than one recipient may be selected during each fiscal year. The recipient is required to carry out research in Montreal during the 2020-21 fiscal year (1 May 2020 - 30 April 2021). The award may be renewable.

Requirements: This travel grant is open to historians, physicians, graduate and post-doctoral students, scholars, and professionals, and to those interested in the arts and humanities of medical history. Preference will be given to applicants whose research requires them to travel to Montreal to consult the resources of the Osler Library of the History of Medicine of McGill University. Recipients are requested to submit a report of their work suitable for publication in the [Osler Library Newsletter](#) and may be invited to give a brief presentation at the University as well.

How to Apply: Applicants should fill in the  [application form](#). Applicants must also submit a CV, a detailed project proposal, and arrange for two letters of recommendation, as described in the application. Electronic submissions are preferred. Please send all documentation attached to an email to [osler.library \[at\]](mailto:osler.library@mcgill.ca)

mcgill.ca. Files should have the name of the applicant, Nickerson, and the year (e.g. Smith_Nickerson_2020_application). **Deadline: 10 January 2020.**

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BOOK REVIEWS

Jeremy Agnew. *Healing Waters: A History of Victorian Spas*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company Inc., 2019. 240 pp. \$49.95 ISBN: 978-1476674599

“...the Babylonian word for a physician was ‘A-zu,’ which meant ‘one who knows water’” (p. 8)

Water therapies have been a part of healing for much of history. The spas of today, focusing mostly on beauty and relaxation, bear little resemblance to the institutions they originated from. This book attempts to inform the reader of the ways in which the spa has evolved over time. The book spends the majority of its pages on spa history and trends in America, though it briefly touches on the bathing culture of earlier peoples like the Native Americans, Ancient Greeks, and Romans. The cultural phenomenon of “spa towns” shaped the economy of many areas around the world, and the book highlights a few of these throughout the text. The author describes in detail many of the spa therapies, not exclusive to hydrotherapy, often including black and white photographs or illustrations.

The author, Jeremy Agnew, explains that the broad scope of the book is to help the reader understand the events leading to the rise and fall of the era of spas. He argues that the bathing trend of the Victorian era helped to usher in new and better standards of hygiene and nutrition, and ultimately led to the downfall of heroic medicine, known for its purging and bleeding treatments, which Agnew explains further in chapter two. He adds that much of the shift in ideals in medical thought closely mirrors social and political tensions of the times. He says, “I have found that the institution of the spa and its treatments included expressions of Victorian fears, culture and worries about industrialization, and was strongly influenced by various new medical fads and health trends that emerged throughout the 1800’s” (p. 2).

This attitude toward health care hasn’t changed much in the time since and gives us a foundation on which to relate to the sometimes surprising treatments described. The

social aspect of Victorian medicine, and its relation to current ideologies is one aspect of this book I wish Agnew would have spent more time on.

In the next section, Agnew discusses a shift in the ideas around healing before finally getting to water treatments in chapter five. First, the author covers the introduction of homeopathy and what he calls “gentler treatments,” with a movement led by Samuel Thomson and his herbal cures. He then introduces the reader to the rise of nutrition and exercise and the trend toward incorporating them into medicine by the famous Sylvester Graham. These short profiles of influential physicians and thinkers of the period are a primary strength of the book.

At last, the book focuses in on “water cures,” spending the next several chapters summarizing the introduction of hydrotherapy in the United States and leaders of the movement, including Russell Trall and Thomas and Mary Gove Nichols. Covered here is both internal and external styles of “bathing” the body. With women being the primary users of this new and popular style of health care, Agnew makes a fascinating connection to female relationships and customs and women’s dress reform, ultimately giving us the “bloomer costume” which had its origins in the “wet dress” treatments of the spas. Another form of internal bathing introduced during this period was colonic irrigation. The insertion of a rubber tube into the bowels sprayed mineral water at random pressure--an unpleasant treatment by everyone’s account. The bowels became a key area of focus for many spa physicians, and treatments far beyond colonic irrigation resulted, including the colonoscopy.

The author then dedicates a section to the conditions that were unique to the Victorian era and the antiquated terms that would have been used to describe them. These include the conditions that caused most concern in the public eye and were precisely what the new spa treatments were being marketed for. Agnew follows this with a significant amount on the odd treatments and medical devices of the Victorian era, including electrotherapy, vibration therapy, and ultraviolet light therapies, often used in conjunction with the “water cures” at spas.

English Victorian spas, in particular, are finally mentioned in chapter twelve along with spas in European locations. The English quickly realized the commercial value of a new type of business catering to the needs of the upper class, and soon every small ocean side town was being developed into a spa town. The English distinguished between two types of spas, bathing waters like those in Bath and mineral water spas for drinking like

the one in Cheltenham, with a few being a combination of both types. Germany, Austria, and France operated spas that became major tourist destinations, with over 3,000 operating spas in Germany alone by the end of the nineteenth century. Agnew then wraps up the book with descriptions of spa facilities and sanitariums in the U.S. He describes in detail John Harvey Kellogg's Western Health Reform Institute and the Battle Creek Sanitarium of which he was medical superintendent and dedicates a whole chapter describing the "cereal wars" of Kellogg and Post, a topic perhaps deserving of its own book.

Of particular interest is the inclusion of descriptions and photographs of many of the advertising pamphlets and posters from historic spas. Librarians and collectors might want to add this book to their holdings if that is something of interest, solely for that reason. Also included, as an appendix, is a chemical analysis of the water in the individual spas discussed and a glossary of Victorian medical terminology.

The title of the book, I believe, is somewhat misleading because it covers so much more than just the history of Victorian spas. It encompasses everything from the beginnings of different types of hydrotherapy around the world to the introduction of patent medicines and the decline of many alternative healing modalities. The writing seemed to jump around in time, place, and even from subject to subject at times, but overall was easy to read. The academic might find it slightly lacking in depth and focus, but the lay person or beginner will find much to learn within. Though the author included a brief timeline (p. 5-6), I would have liked to see a more comprehensive timeline of the events presented to clarify the text, as occasionally Agnew uses vague phrases like "since antiquity" or "as old as mankind."

There were some issues with the book, but I felt that it discussed many subjects that are frequently left out of the literature and was glad to see a different perspective being presented. There are many gems of unique and fun information hiding throughout, and because of that it was an enjoyable read. Those interested in the subject will find a fairly extensive bibliography to guide them in further reading.

This volume would be suited for collections focusing on holistic and alternative healing, Victorian health reform, or the history of hygiene and medicine of the late 19th and early 20th century.

Sheri McCaskill

Colorado State University Libraries

Maragret DeLacy *The Germ of an Idea: Contagionism, Religion, and Society in Britain, 1660-1730*. Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave MacMillan, 2016. xviii, 305 p. \$89.99. ISBN 978-1137575272

Margaret DeLacy's *The Germ of an Idea: Contagionism, Religion, and Society in Britain, 1660-1730*, explores a multitude of factors that account for what might be considered a "slump" in early 18th century British medicine. This is a well-researched book by independent scholar DeLacy, citing materials from an extensive array of scholarly medical collections, many from the United Kingdom.

The scientific, medical, and political players, of varying degrees of importance, during this time frame are many, some big, some small. It is almost as if numerous dots – some larger and more prominent – in an emerging universe of thought, discovery, religion, philosophy, social factors, close-mindedness, etc., would not be connected until later, after some of the dots diminished or others glowed brighter over time, and there was a change in attitude of such august organizations as the elitist and often non-receptive Royal Society and the London College of Physicians.

Contagionism would eventually be accepted. It got a lot of people thinking about causes of disease, but early on its opponents and obstacles were many. Philosophical and religious beliefs, spontaneous generation thinking, Galenism and neo-Galenism, with an emphasis upon humoral imbalances, also added to the veil clouding the murky constellation of dots. This thinking was comfortable to established medicos of the time, many of whom rubbed elbows with those in political and government circles. Research by those intrigued by contagionism was in its infancy; microscopy was primitive; little or no support came from organizations which might have, if interested, furthered the research. Funding and operating costs for royal organizations took higher priority, with no emphasis for experimental work on contagionism-related research, and as one would expect, something of interest today may not be of interest next year.

The three key researchers, which are discussed at some length in this book, are actually not British, but foreigners: Athanasius Kircher, a German Jesuit priest; Francesco Redi, an Italian physician; and Antoni van Leeuwenhoek, a Dutch cloth merchant turned microscopist. Sometimes work of foreign contributors was stigmatized. In time, though, London became a magnet for foreigners fleeing religious and political prosecution. With some of them –Paracelsians and Helmontians – came unorthodox medical thinking. The general populace also was becoming more literate. Restoration efforts brought much

conflict politically and socially, thereby affecting universities and medical training, among a plethora of other aspects of the country's social fabric, probably setting the country back an indeterminate number of years.

Established medical and scientific societies in England had looked down upon research relating to contagionism or any thinking which would rock the conventional wisdom of the time. Those involved in this dubious research often found obstacles to having their work taken seriously, with some despairing, and others eventually realizing that continuing to advocate for contagionism would not further their careers. Sadly, some of that work would be tabled. However, determined researchers, shunned by medical societies or organizations, often published pamphlets or other works on their own.

The rinderpest outbreak of 1711 in Italy renewed interest in contagionism. This disease of cattle had great economic impact; cattle provided meat, milk, cheese, and were important as draft animals and a means of transportation. Cattle were important to all European economies, rural as well as market economies. Observations of the outbreak seemed to indicate the disease was peculiar to cattle; humans and other animal species were seemingly immune. The observation of "tiny little worms" in oxen blood seemed to support a contagion-theory. A few years later, in 1720, Benjamin Marten's *New Theory of Consumptions* would further fan interest in contagionism, and prove prescient to modern epidemiological thinking.

This reviewer quotes Charles-Edward Amory Winslow (1877-1963), the American public health pioneer and educator, which seems to characterize the blurry and nebulous universe of mostly unconnected dots mentioned above:

By 1700 there was available theoretical and observational evidence which should have made possible the formulation of our modern germ theory of disease. Kircher had advanced the concept of *contagium animatum*...Redi had presented convincing evidence that living things...were not spontaneously produced...Leeuwenhoek had actually described...protozoa and bacteria...If an open-minded and imaginative observer had put the work of these three pioneers together, the germ theory of disease could have been developed in the seventeenth century instead of the nineteenth. Why [were] medical thinkers diverted?

The influence of British physician Thomas Sydenham (1624-1689) is given considerable discussion. Not surprisingly, Winslow believed it was Sydenham (who Winslow credits with little formal medical training) who with “his almost complete neglect of contagion as a practical factor in the spread of epidemic disease and his major stress upon the metaphysical factor of [the] epidemic constitution held back epidemiological progress for 200 years.”

In *The Germ of an Idea*, Dr. DeLacy seems to have done a notable job of connecting many of those medical history dots characterizing the years 1660-1730 in England and bringing them into a more focused image.

Sharon Butcher

Victoria Johnson. *American Eden: David Hosack, Botany, and Medicine in the Garden of the Early Republic*. New York: Liveright, 2018. x, 461 pages. Hardcover, \$29.95; paperback, \$18.95. ISBN: 978-1-63149-419-2.

David Hosack (1769-1835) is known today – if he’s known at all – as the physician who tended to Alexander Hamilton after his fatal duel with Aaron Burr. The character isn’t identified in Lin-Manuel Miranda’s *Hamilton*, but perhaps it’s that cultural juggernaut which impelled Victoria Johnson to write the first full-scale biography of Hosack since Christine Chapman Robbins’s 1964 *David Hosack, Citizen of New York*.

Hosack – whose name, Johnson informs us, was pronounced in his lifetime as “Hozzick” – was one of those polymaths which the Early Republic seems to have thrown up like mushrooms after a heavy rain – Peale, Rush, and, of course, Jefferson all come to mind. Educated both in the United States (Columbia, Princeton, Pennsylvania) and Great Britain (Edinburgh, London), and in correspondence with many of the scientific luminaries of North America and Europe, Hosack was a physician, medical scientist, educator, public health advocate, and tireless booster of his native city, New York. But his passion was botany, and Johnson chooses to focus on this aspect of his multi-faceted career.

Botany fascinated Hosack both as a purely scientific endeavor and as an important tool in the art of medicine. While not primarily interested in Hosack as physician, Johnson notes that he deviated in some important ways from the era’s medical orthodoxy: he used mercury sparingly, was skeptical of bloodletting, and was more likely to use plant

rather than mineral-based medicines. Yet, Hosack was very much part of the medical establishment – a reminder that the acceptable bounds of medical practice in his time were wider than we often assume.

Hosack's greatest achievement was his establishment of the first public botanic garden in the United States. There were earlier gardens – Bartram's still-existing Philadelphia garden comes to mind – but Hosack's was the first in this country to have a primarily scientific aim. It was to be a resource for research, discovery, and teaching rather than be a commercial enterprise. Hosack pursued this dream with a tenacity and single-mindedness that Johnson recounts in slightly awed tones: his huge expenditure of labor and money, his pursuit of plant specimens from around the globe, and his years-long struggle to obtain support from the New York State legislature. His efforts make up a large part of her narrative, and it's a testament to her skills as a writer that Hosack's crusade never becomes tedious but rather sweeps you up: you *want* him to succeed, and, when, after years of toil and worry, he admits defeat and the garden is dismantled, the reader may be as dismayed as Hosack was.

In fact, his efforts weren't in vain. The students who trained with Hosack went on to be the next generation of American botanists, the most important being John Torrey, the pre-eminent botanist of the antebellum era. And in a roundabout way, Hosack's garden contributed to making Columbia University the major research university it is today. The New York State legislature, tiring of supporting the garden it had bought from Hosack, turned it over to New York City's medical school, the College of Physicians and Surgeons (then an independent institution). After they couldn't make a go of it, the garden reverted back to the state which, desperate to be rid of it, donated it to Columbia College. Columbia closed the garden – which by this time was in bad shape – but held onto the land. Though then situated miles from New York City in the rocky center of Manhattan Island, within a half century it would be paying Columbia substantial sums in ground rent and in the 1930s became the site of Rockefeller Center. The university held on to the land until 1985 when it sold it for \$400 million.

In Johnson's capable hands, Hosack's story is more than that of a single man: it recounts the history of a city, a country, and a world-wide scientific community. He seems to have known anyone of note who lived in or came through New York and in a time almost as politically polarized as our own managed to be friends with both Hamilton and Burr (though Jefferson never seems to have warmed to him).

I finished this book thinking that if I were ever asked the “which historical figures would you invite to dinner” question, I’d have to make room for David Hosack. At the very least, he’d never be boring.

Stephen E. Novak

Head, Archives & Special Collections

Columbia University Health Sciences Library

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