Two months ago, we met in Columbus, Ohio for a memorable AAHM meeting. It was the first, in my memory, in which we shared a conference venue with tattoo artists, taxidermists, and steampunk aficionados of all stripes. We owe so much to the Local Arrangements Committee (hats off to Susan Lawrence and Jackie Wolf), to the Program Committee (chaired by the remarkable duo Carin Berkowitz and Pablo Gómez), and to all the attendees who contributed to the extraordinary conference offerings and discussions.

But the AAHM Council meeting was important. The officers and Council members discussed two issues that you are sure to hear more of in the coming months and years. First, there was concern about the declining membership in the AAHM. Our organization is not unique in this respect; many scholarly societies are contending with steady declines in membership. There are new scholarly groups, journals, and modes of communication, that compete for scarcer resources. In some cases, members who do join us do not renew their membership. Members who do rejoin may wonder whether the association provides enough value for their membership dues, which do increase from time to time with rising publishing costs. There are real questions about what our association can do, should do, and must do to change the tide, to continue to remain relevant, to stem the slide in membership, to attract new members, and to retain the ones we have. There was, however, a significant reminder that the AAHM, like other scholarly organizations both large and small, is not removed from the larger social and political currents that are challenging our interactions both professionally and personally.
Just a week before the meeting, I received an email informing me that some of our graduate students have experienced discrimination and sexual harassment from fellow AAHM members both at their home institutions and at the conference venues. This was, and continues to be, disturbing news. I trust that no member of the AAHM would support language, behaviors, and attitudes that create an unwelcoming and unsafe climate for graduate students and indeed, for any members of the Association.

It was good to know that in fact, the AAHM adopted two years ago the following Statement of Principle about the organization’s commitment to fostering the best possible environment for the free exchange of ideas and arguments at our meetings, in our interactions, and in our scholarship. President Chris Crenner called on Judy Leavitt to consider what other organizations are doing in this regard, including the Organization of American Historians, the American Astronomical Society, and the Modern Language Association. She composed the AAHM Statement of Principle on Non-Discrimination and Sexual Harassment.

It was less good to learn that many people were not familiar with the Statement. For that reason, I take the opportunity here to reprint it in its entirety. I also note that the Statement will be prominently displayed on the newly developing organization website.

AAHM Statement of Principle on Non-Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (May 4, 2019)

Preamble: As a professional society, AAHM provides an environment that encourages the free expression and exchange of ideas. In pursuit of that environment, the AAHM is committed to the philosophy of equality of opportunity and treatment for all members, regardless of gender, gender identity or expression, race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion or religious belief, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities, veteran status, or any other reason not related to professional merit. (continued on page 3)
All functions of the Association are conducted in a professional atmosphere in which all participants are treated with courtesy and respect. It is the responsibility of the Officers, the Chairs of the AAHM committees, or the organizers of AAHM meetings, and of the members themselves to ensure that such an atmosphere is maintained. It is the policy of the AAHM that all participants in Association activities will enjoy an environment free from all forms of discrimination. To this end we propose the following guidelines on sexual harassment.

The term “sexual harassment” may be used to describe a wide range of behaviors. It includes, but is not limited to, the following: generalized sexist remarks or behavior; requests for sexual favors; sexual advances, whether sanction free, linked to reward, or accompanied by threat of retaliation; the use of asymmetric power or authority to emphasize the sexuality or sexual identity or another person in a manner which prevents or impairs his or her full enjoyment of Association benefits, climates or opportunities; and sexual assaults. Such behaviors are unacceptable because they are forms of unethical and unprofessional conduct and seriously undermine the atmosphere of trust essential to our Association.

Further, it is unprofessional behavior to condone sexual harassment or to disregard complaints of sexual harassment. Such actions allow a climate of sexual harassment to exist and seriously undermine the atmosphere of trust essential to our Association.

This Statement is a small, but significant first step. But it is only the beginning of a longer discussion and more concerted action on the part of the AAHM to address this issue. A second step will be the Council's action to convert the Ad-Hoc Committee on Climate and Inclusion to a permanent standing committee, the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.

You will be hearing much more about this in the coming months.

Sue Lederer
AAHM President

AAHM NEWS

2019 Award Recipients

Congratulations to the 2019 AAHM awards recipients! Each one was recognized at the awards ceremony held at the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum on Saturday, April 27, during the 92nd annual meeting of the Association in Columbus, Ohio.


AAHM awarded the George Rosen Prize for 2019 to Sarah Leavitt, for her exhibition “Architecture of an Asylum: St. Elizabeth’s 1852-2017” at the National Building Museum, Washington, DC.


The winner of the 2019 Richard H. Shryock Medal was Kevin George McQueeney, Department of History, Georgetown University, “The City That Care Forgot: The Long Civil Rights Struggle Over African American Health and the Perpetuation of Apartheid Healthcare in Twentieth Century New Orleans”; Honorable mention: Spencer J. Weinreich, Department of History, Princeton University, “Legal and Medical Authority in the Newgate Smallpox Experiment (1721)”

Evelynn M. Hammonds, Chair, Department of the History of Science, the Barbara Gutmann Rosenkrantz Professor of the History of Science and
Professor of African and African American Studies, Harvard University will present the 2020 Garrison Lecture at the 93rd annual meeting of the Association in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Joelle Abi-Rached, (Ph.D. Harvard, 2017) currently a Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow at Columbia University, was the 2019 recipient of the Jack D. Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Career Development Award in 20th Century History of Medicine or Science for her project: “The Dead Which Cannot Be Buried”: War, Madness, and Modernity in the Levant, 1896–1982.”


The 2019 Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Jacalyn Duffin.

**AAHM Call for Papers**

The American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) invites abstracts for papers in any area of the history of health and healing for its 93rd annual meeting, to be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, May 7-10, 2020. The AAHM welcomes papers on the histories of medicine, disease, and health broadly defined, including the history of medical ideas, practices, or institutions and the history of healing, illness, disease, or public health. We welcome proposals related to all eras and regions of the world. The Program Committee, led by co-chairs, Raúl Necochea López and Dominique Tobbell, particularly encourages the submission of papers and panels that increase the methodological, thematic, chronological and geographical diversity of the history of medicine and engage related fields (such as social medicine, literary studies, anthropology, or sociology).

The Program Committee seeks four kinds of submissions:

**Individual papers:** All papers in this category should represent original scholarship not already published or in press. Speakers should expect to give a presentation of no more than twenty minutes followed by ten minutes of discussion. Authors wishing to publish their papers are urged to submit them for consideration to the Bulletin of the History of Medicine.

**Panels:** These consist of three individual papers featuring original scholarship (again limited to twenty minutes each) addressing a common topic. An appointed moderator should submit a proposal for the entire panel and coordinate individual speakers. Each speaker should submit an individual abstract as well. Please note that both panels and the individual abstracts for the papers included in them will be judged collectively and will be kept intact on the program. Panels may also include an invited discussant but must still fit within a ninety-minute session (i.e., fifteen minutes per paper).

**Symposium/Lunch Workshops:** Symposia and workshops address topics of broad interest, such as historiography, teaching, research methods, and advocacy, rather than original scholarship. These 75-minute sessions have a flexible format and can include a larger number of presenters (5-6), and leave ample space for discussion with the audience. A number of these symposia will be scheduled during lunch breaks. We are particularly interested in roundtables that bring together different disciplinary or methodological backgrounds, engage with topics with scholarly or political immediacy, or that address audiences or use formats not well supported by a more traditional panel format.

**Flash talks:** Flash talks are concise presentations of developing and ongoing research meant to highlight the work of students. Flash talks last up to 5 minutes, and will be followed by discussion of up to 10 minutes.
Posters: Posters are well-suited to works that emphasize non-textual content. A limited number of them, representing original work not already published or in press, will be accepted for display in a designated area, with planned times for discussion during the meeting.

**Please note that submissions are limited to one per person per category—one symposium/workshop, one paper abstract, one flash-talk abstract, or one poster. Presenters, however, can also be chairs of an organized panel.**

Submissions must include an abstract (of no more than 300 words) with title, your name and institutional affiliation, three key words that describe your proposed paper, and three Continuing Medical Education (CME) learning objectives (the learning objectives are not considered part of the word count). For suggestions on developing learning objectives, see: www.histmed.org/learning_objectives. And for examples of successful abstracts from selected past programs, see: www.histmed.org/meetings.

Individuals are not required to be AAHM members at the time of submitting an abstract, but they must join AAHM before registering for and presenting at the meeting.

To submit an abstract for an individual paper, flash session, poster, or lunch session, please use this link: app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/1265/submissions/new.

To submit an abstract for a panel (symposia) please use this link: app.oxfordabstracts.com/events/1126/symposia/create.

Abstracts must be submitted by midnight, Pacific Time (US), September 30, 2019. No late submissions will be considered.

Call for Nominations, AAHM Awards, 2020

All awards will be presented at the AAHM annual meeting in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Additional information may be found on the AAHM website: histmed.org/about/awards.

Osler Medal Essay Contest, 2020. The William Osler Medal is awarded annually for the best unpublished essay on a medical historical topic written by a student enrolled in a school of medicine or osteopathy in the United States or Canada. First awarded in 1942, the medal commemorates Sir William Osler, who stimulated an interest in the humanities among medical students and physicians.

All students who are candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathy, or are graduates of the class of 2019, are eligible. The essay must have been written while the entrant was a student in good standing. Students are not eligible to compete for the Osler Medal if they have completed at least one full year of graduate training in history, the history of science or medicine, or the humanities or social sciences by the closing date of the competition. Medical students who have been enrolled in a graduate program in history or a related discipline should submit their essays to the Shryock competition. No student should submit an essay to both competitions in the same year. Essays that have been awarded an Honorable Mention are not eligible for resubmission.

Essays may pertain to the historical development of a contemporary medical problem, or to a topic within the health sciences related to a discrete period in the past and should demonstrate either original research or an unusual appreciation and understanding of the problems discussed. The essay (maximum 9,000 words, including endnotes) must be entirely the work of one contestant.

Complete contest information may be viewed on the AAHM website www.histmed.org/about/Awards or obtained from the Osler Medal Committee Chair:
Justin Barr at justbarr@gmail.com. Entries must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) by 31 January 2019.

Shryock Medal Essay Contest, 2020. Graduate students are invited to enter the Shryock Medal Essay Contest. The medal honors Richard Harrison Shryock (1893–1972), a pioneer among historians interested in the history of medicine. The award is given for an outstanding, unpublished essay by a single author on any topic in the history of medicine. The essay (maximum 12,000 words, including endnotes) must be the result of original research or show an unusual appreciation and understanding of problems in the history of medicine. In particular, the committee will judge essays on the quality of writing, appropriate use of sources, and ability to address themes of historical significance.

This competition is open to students enrolled in a graduate program in history or a related discipline at the time of submission. Medical students who have been enrolled in such a program should submit their essays to the Shryock competition. No student should submit an essay to both competitions in the same year. Essays that have been awarded an Honorable Mention are not eligible for resubmission.

Questions and submissions should be directed to Shryock Medal Committee chair: Cynthia Connolly cac1@nursing.upenn.edu. Essays must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) no later than 31 January 2020.

J. Worth Estes Award, 2020. This award was established in honor of J. Worth Estes, M.D., in recognition of his many invaluable contributions to the American Association for the History of Medicine and to scholarship in the history of medicine. The award is made annually for the best published paper in the history of pharmacology during the previous two years, whether appearing in a journal or a book collection of papers. The choice of topic reflects Worth Estes’ long tenure as Professor of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics at Boston University and his own scholarship in the history of pharmacology.

For the purpose of this award, the history of pharmacology will be defined broadly to include ancient and traditional materia medica, folk medicines, herbal medicines, the pharmaceuticals of the modern era, pharmaceutics, and the like. It shall encompass the discovery of medicaments, basic investigations about them, their characteristics and properties, their preparation and marketing, and their therapeutic applications.

While the committee will be monitoring relevant journals and books where such papers might appear, they welcome nominations of papers that would be eligible for consideration. The nomination should consist of a letter citing the work nominated along with a copy of the paper. For the current award, candidate papers will be those published in 2018 and 2019. Papers in languages other than English should be accompanied by a translation or detailed precis.

Nominations should be directed to the Chair of the Committee, Luc Richert at lucas.richert@wisc.edu and must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) no later than 17 January 2020.

Jack D. Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Development Award in 20th Century History of Medicine or Biomedical Sciences, 2019. This award honors Jack D. Pressman, Ph.D., a distinguished historian of medicine and Associate Professor of the History of the Health Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco at the time of his early and unexpected death in June 1997. The award and stipend of $1,000 is given yearly for outstanding work in twentieth-century history of medicine or medical biomedical sciences, as demonstrated by the completion of the Ph.D. and a proposal to turn the dissertation into a publishable monograph. The Ph.D. must have been completed and the degree granted within the last five years (i.e.,
2015–2019). The application must include a curriculum vitae, the dissertation abstract, a one-page summary of the proposed book; a description (not exceeding two pages) of the work to be undertaken for publication; and two letters of support from faculty members knowledgeable about the applicant’s dissertation.

The application, including all supporting materials, must be submitted by 31 December 2019. Submissions and/or questions should be directed to the Chair of the Pressman–Burroughs Wellcome Committee, Jacob Steere-Williams at Steerewilliamsj@cofc.edu.

**Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award, 2020.** The American Association for the History of Medicine established the lifetime achievement award in 1988; the first recipients were Saul Jarcho, Lester King, and Owsei Temkin. The award was named for Genevieve Miller in 2014 to honor her contributions to the history of medicine and the Association. The award is given annually to a member of the Association who has retired from regular institutional affiliation or practice, with a distinguished record of support for the history of medicine over many years, and who has made continuing scholarly contributions of a distinguished nature. Charlotte Borst, chair of the Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, welcomes nominations for the award, at the following e-mail address: charlotte.borst@gmail.com. Nominations for this award should include at least one letter of nomination outlining the nominee’s continuing contributions to the field and a curriculum vitae or other biographical information. Deadline for nominations: 31 October 2019. Electronic submissions are preferred.

**George Rosen Prize, 2020.** The George Rosen Prize is awarded in odd years to one or more authors/creators of an article, essay, edited volume, museum exhibition, film, or other significant contribution to the history of public health or the history of social medicine published or created in the five calendar years preceding the award’s nomination deadline, i.e. from 2013 to 2018. “Social medicine” here refers to historical efforts to heal, relieve, or prevent diseases arising inherently from social circumstances and is intended to be distinct from the “social history of medicine.” In this context, “social” refers to the perspective of the historical actors and not to the perspective or methods of the historian.

The award is named in honor of George Rosen, physician, public health administrator, past-president of the AAHM, and a major contributor to the history of social medicine. The AAHM Council established the award in 2014 thanks to the generosity of Susan Rosen Koslow. Further information is available at www.histmed.org/about/awards. The chair of the 2018–2019 Rosen Prize Committee, Graham Mooney, welcomes suggestions of articles, films or other significant scholarly endeavors to consider for the award that are not singly or jointly authored historical monographs (these will be eligible for the Rosen Prize next year). Publishers nominating an edited volume must send a copy to each member of the committee.

To nominate a book and to obtain mailing addresses of all committee members, contact Judith Houck, Chair of the George Rosen Prize Committee, at jahouck@wisc.edu. Deadline for submissions: 31 October 2019.

**William H. Welch Medal, 2020.** The William H. Welch Medal is awarded to one or more authors of a book (excluding edited volumes) of outstanding scholarly merit in the field of medical history published during the five calendar years preceding the award. Hence, books published during 2014–2018 inclusively will be eligible for the Medal. No author who has previously won the Welch Medal is eligible for the award. A complete list of previous winners is available on the AAHM website at www.histmed.org/about/awards/welchmedal/welch-medal-winners.

The award is named in honor of a major American figure in the history of medicine and public health, who was also one of the first faculty members at the
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. The Medal was first presented in 1950 to Henry Sigerist. The chair of the 2019-2020 Welch Medal Committee, Jeremy Greene welcomes suggestions of books to consider for the award. Publishers nominating a book must send a copy to each member of the committee.

To nominate a book and to obtain mailing addresses of all committee members, contact via phone or e-mail: Jeremy Greene, Institute of the History of Medicine, The Johns Hopkins University, 1900 East Monument Street, Baltimore, MD 21205-2113; 410-955-4849; greene@jhmi.edu. Dead-line for nominations: 31 October 2019. Previously nominated eligible books must be re-nominated; they will not be considered automatically.

**Strategic Planning/Direction**

Council set aside of its annual meeting to form four work groups and review the data gathered in the membership survey. Each group address specific area: membership, annual meetings, teaching, and professional development. All were asked to identify what AAHM does well in these areas and where the association falls short. A summary of the groups’ work is below:

### Membership

**What works well:**
1. Excellent meetings
2. Great publications (*Bulletin*, newsletter)
3. Networking at meetings (website is helpful but passive)

**What works not-so-well:**
1. Networking between meetings
2. Mentoring young scholars/professional development for jobs
3. Online presence could be better/improve social media.

### Annual Meetings

**What works well:**
1. Collegial meetings
2. Intellectual sessions
3. Networking

4. Opportunities for publishing

**What works not-so-well:**
1. Social media
2. Sunday morning sessions
3. Costs
4. Session to appeal to physician historians

### Teaching

**What works well:**
1. Delivery of content
   a. Access to content at panels
   b. Access to members’ knowledge
   c. Journal content
   d. Books at exhibits to enhance teaching

**What works not-so-well:**
1. More professional development workshops on teaching
2. Advertise more effectively that AAHM participation enhances one’s teaching
3. Setting up a syllabus exchange site behind firewall for members
4. Sessions of “how to teach about epidemics”
   strategies and sources for teaching about medicine in history courses
5. Establishing a teaching prize

### Professional Development

**What works well:**
1. Papers from graduate students are always on the program
2. Support interest groups
3. Prizes awarded at key stages of careers and award ceremony open for all

**What works not-so-well:**
1. Notifying home institutions of award recipients
2. A few institutions perpetuate hidden networks that the organization does little to discourage

Council decided to focus on the following areas in the next few years: 1) annual meeting innovation and support; 2) enhanced online presence and membership benefits; 3) support for teaching and professional development; 4) continue building and raising funds for an executive director and other
priorities of the association. The officers and council members welcome your feedback on any or all of these areas. Please reach out and give them your feedback.

AAHM Committees 2019-20

Council:
Class of 2020
   Justin Barr
   Marta Hanson
   Mical Raz
   Shannon Withycombe
Class of 2021
   Eram Alam
   Janet Golden
   Laurence Monnais
   Arlene Shaner
Class of 2022
   Elan Conis
   Cynthia Connolly
   Mariola Espinosa
   Lara Freidenfelds

Program Committee:
   Raul Necochea, co-chair
   Dominique Tobbell, co-chair
   Elaine Leong
   Deirdre Cooper Owens
   Robert Peckham
   Ahmed Ragab
   Kavita Sivaramakrishnan
   Noemi Tousignant
   Jaipreet Virdi

Finance Committee
   Arleen Tuchman, chair (2020)
   Scott Podolsky (2021)
   Beatrix Hoffman (2022)

Nominating Committee
   Paul Lombardo, chair
   Rick Keller
   Ellen More

Shryock Medal Committee

Cynthia Connolly, chair
Robin Scheffler
Annelie Drakman
Neil Pemberton

Osler Medal Committee
   Justin Barr, chair
   Anne Kveim Lie
   Andrew Hogan

Pressman Burroughs-Welcome Award Committee
   Jacob Steere-Williams, chair
   Mical Raz
   Jessica Martucci

Miller Lifetime Achievement Award Committee
   Charlotte Borst, chair.
   John Harley Warner
   Sydney Halpern

Rosen Prize Committee
   Judith Houck, chair
   Linda Broderick
   Mariola Espinosa
   Todd Olzsewski
   Dora Vargha

Welch Medal Committee
   Jeremy Greene, chair
   Rick Mizelle
   Alisha Rankin
   Susan Reverby
   Kavitha Sivaramakrishnan

Garrison Lecture Committee
   Rana Hogarth, chair
   David Barnes
   Wangui Muigai
   Stephen Pemberton

Estes Prize Committee
   Luc Richert, chair
   Laurence Monnais
   Petros Bouras-Vallianatos
Annual Meetings
Ted Brown (chair 2020)
Debbie Doroshow (2021)
Andrew Ruis (2022)
Stephen Greenberg (2022)

Publications
Christine Ruggere, chair (2022)
Rima Apple (2020)
Paul Berman (2024)

Education and Outreach
Clair Clark, chair (2022)
Jacqueline Antonovich (2022)
Antoine Johnson (2022)
Kelly Jones (2022)
Aimee Medeiros (2020)
Naomi Redina (2022)
Courtney Thompson (2020)
Aelwen Wetherby (2021)
Christopher Willoughby (2022)

Committee on Student Affairs
Walt Schalick, faculty advisor

Travel Grant Committee
John Parascandola, chair (2020)
Greg Higby (2022)
Lisa Bob (2022)

Delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies
Chris Crenner

Delegate to the International Society for the History of Medicine
Andrew Nadell

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Guenter Risse donated his personal library of 1,500 historical medical texts and scholarly works to the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine of Washington State University in Spokane.

ARCHIVES/LIBRARIES/MUSEUMS

The Library and Center for the History of Medicine and Public Health, The New York Academy of Medicine

The Library was very pleased to be the recipient of the 2019 online publication award from Archives and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) for our online digital exhibit and collection, Facendo Il Libro: The Making of Fasciculus Medicinae, an Early Printed Anatomy. This was truly a team effort: Anne Garner, Curator, Rare Books & Manuscripts, provided curatorial input and oversight; Robin Naughton, Head of Digital, and her team provided the digital structure, operability, scanning and metadata, and quality control; Arlene Shaner, Historical Collections Librarian, worked extensively with the books and provided needed information; and our conservation team ensured the safe digitization of the five editions that we hold of the Fasciculus medicinae, dated 1495 through 1522. This was the first Library project where full-text books were digitized in-house. The collection can be viewed here: digitalcollections.nyam.org/digital/fasciculusmedicinae.

National Library of Medicine

A much anticipated open-access book entitled Viral Networks: Connecting Digital Humanities and Medical History, comprising a collection of research papers, is now available from VT Publishing and NLM Digital Collections. The book is the product of the Viral Networks: An Advanced Workshop in Digital Humanities and Medical History, January 2018, hosted by the NLM's History of Medicine Division, supported by the Office of Digital Humanities of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and organized by Virginia Tech, and was a collaborative outcome of NLM’s ongoing collaboration with the NEH. This volume of original essays explores the power of network thinking and analysis for humanities research. Contributing authors are all scholars whose research focuses on a medical history.
topic—from the Black Death in fourteenth-century Provence to psychiatric hospitals in twentieth-century Alabama. The chapters take readers through a variety of situations in which scholars must determine if network analysis is right for their research; and, if the answer is yes, what the possibilities are for implementation. Readers will find practical tips on identifying an appropriate network to analyze, finding the best way to apply network analysis, and choosing the right tools for data visualization. The result is a highly original and practical volume for scholars in all fields of historical study who might be considering network analysis for their own research. See www.nlm.nih.gov/news/Open_Access_Book_Now_Available.html.

Over two dozen additional journal titles are now freely available in NLM’s PubMed Central (PMC) repository, spanning three centuries and encompassing hundreds of thousands of pages. In total, the collaboration has grown PMC by over 650,000 pages and tens of thousands of individual articles. These newly-available titles are free to read, download, text mine, and re-use via the PMC Text Mining Collections www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/tools/textmining/, which includes the PMC Open Access Subset and the Historical OCR Collection. See www.nlm.nih.gov/news/NLM_and_Wellcome_Complete_Partnership.html.

NLM Launches Medicine on Screen: Films and Essays from NLM, replacing Medical Movies on the Web, which debuted in 2013, and expanding NLM’s engagement with researchers from a variety of disciplines who use the medium of film and video to study the human condition. Responding to feedback from these and other patrons, Medicine on Screen offers a fresh design, enhanced functionality, and new essays placing selected titles from the Library’s world-renowned audiovisuals collection in historical and health contexts. See medicineonscreen.nlm.nih.gov/.

In recognition of the 50th anniversary of the first commercially available vaccine to prevent rubella, the NLM announced “Rashes to Research: Scientists and Parents Confront the Rubella Epidemic of 1964,” a banner exhibition and companion online adaptation www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/rashestoresearch/index.html. The exhibition opened June 3, 2019. “Rashes to Research” highlights the work of researchers and parents to limit the impact of rubella in the years before an effective vaccine nearly eliminated the disease from the United States. During the rubella epidemic that raged in 1964, 20,000 children were born with serious heart, hearing, and vision problems related to rubella exposure during pregnancy. While the nation’s scientists rushed to create a vaccine and develop better screening tests, families faced difficult, complicated decisions about current and future pregnancies.

Drawing on the collections of the NLM, the special display showcases a companion exhibition Rashes to Research: The Division of Biologics Standards’ Impossible Role. This exhibition tells the story of the NIH’s Division of Biologics Standards (DBS), whose early research spurred the development of the first commercially available vaccine to prevent rubella. However, DBS, both the developer of the rubella vaccine and the regulator of vaccines, occupied an impossible role. To resolve tension between DBS’ role as an innovator and regulator, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) transferred the Division to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in July 1972 and renamed it the Bureau of Biologics. The online adaptation of “Rashes to Research” includes an education component featuring a new K-12 lesson plan and a university module, and a digital gallery that further explores the historic collection of the NLM using the works from NLM Digital Collections. The banner exhibition and special display will be available through September 25, 2019, in the History of Medicine Division Reading Room, first floor of the National Library of Medicine.