



Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sometime in the late 1980s, when I was a medical resident in Boston, a teen just old enough to be assigned to the adult side of the ER became the diagnostic puzzle of the day. He had a high fever, a striking red rash, nasty sore throat, and a somewhat clouded mind. No travel to speak of, no exotic history at all. That well-educated cadre of ER doctors, including the brilliant young attending, had never seen the syndrome that was before us.

“Could this be measles? Or, heaven forbid, diphtheria?” I wondered. We scrambled in those pre-internet days to find a description. Funny spots on the palate. Not. The throat did look nasty enough to grow a false membrane. “Could we get someone down here who knows what measles looks like?” Paging an ID consult—make that a white-haired ID consult!

He arrived, fellow and residents respectfully following. It took him all of two minutes. “It’s scarlet fever. Obviously. Group A strep will grow on the culture. Haven’t you seen scarlet fever before?” We had not, nor would I ever see it again. (Although, to be fair, it is more likely to show up on the pediatric side of the ER even now).

In the current outbreak of measles, many themes have emerged in op-ed pieces about the societal failures that have led a disease eradicated from the U.S. fifteen years to re-emerge in our time. My home university of Duke has a place in this history. Dr. Samuel Katz, emeritus professor of pediatrics here at Duke, perfected the measles vaccine in 1963; it was here that Rand Paul acquired his medical degree in 1988; and here that Jeff Baker has researched the history of vaccines, their relation to autism, and the varied societal responses to them. (For his latest op-ed on this phenomenon and Dr. Rand Paul’s dubious role in it, see

www.philly.com/philly/blogs/public_health/Life-Liberty-and-the-Right-to-Measles-Rand-Paul-on-Vaccination.html .

Many have focused on the widespread science-ignorance in the American population, looking at not only the resistance to vaccines but also disbelief in evolution and global warming, as well as unquestioned faith in health food supplements that turn out to contain ground radish, and not ginkgo biloba. That there is a wide gap between the methodology/knowledge of scientists and the general belief systems of many Americans (often amplified by unscrupulous politicians) has become a truism. P. T. Barnum knew all about it.

My theme here, though, is the role of memory in the current measles outbreak. I argue that we would do well to heed the voices of the grandparents in this discussion. Grandparents are the keepers of familial memory, including health knowledge. My Grandmother Donnelly was the grandchild of those who fled the potato famine, and her sisters died young of tuberculosis. She looked at my scrawny infant brother and said “that child is too thin.” Of course he was too thin—if he was to survive TB or famine, the specters of her life. My mother kept anxious watch over my brother and me (b. 1953 and 1955) when polio raged through the south. Every fever could mean that the baby would die, or never walk. When they began to hand out sugar cubes in the basement of my grade school in 1963, she made sure we were first in line. Polio was her specter. Vaccine, its exorcist.

We sailed through the other, expected diseases of childhood—measles, mumps, German measles, chicken pox. She sent us over to neighbors’ houses to bring home the diseases, so we could be sure to get it before we started school. Measles parties included cupcakes.

That baby boom generation, born between 1945 and 1965 (more or less) are today’s grandparents and even great grandparents in the United States. We bring our memory (it wasn’t so bad) and our adult experiences (haven’t seen those diseases for awhile, except chicken pox) to the familial medical advice passed down to today’s parents.

Even as parents listen to their pediatricians, this other source of information may be more powerful. In my adult years I once saw my mother burn her hand as she took a cookie sheet out of the oven. By then a practicing primary care physician, I reached for a paper towel and ice cube so she could apply cold to the burn immediately. “Mother, put ice on it,” I advised. She instead found a stick of butter in the fridge. “My mother always put butter on burns.” “Mother, put ice on it,” I said in growing exasperation. After several rounds of this my father

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

chimed in “She went to Harvard Medical School. She might know something.” Mother reluctantly took the ice cube, but was still startled that this intervention made a difference.

We are losing the people who actually remember how awful the childhood diseases can be, leaving only those who survived them with fogged childhood memories of ice cream and minimal consequences. It falls to us the historians to try to create a cultural memory that supplants this misleading folk knowledge.

As those of us who study the American Civil War especially know, memory can be crafted to suit contemporary purposes as well as to record historical events. Each time I see one of our members featured prominently in a news story (even if it is sometimes their work and not their name that is evident), I am proud of our field’s role in using history to roll back the tide of preventable disease that may follow from inadequate historical understanding.

And for all those medical school deans who might be listening—see, history of medicine matters! And may save lives.

*Margaret Humphreys,
AAHM President*

AAHM NEWS

Celebrate AAHM’s 90th Birthday in New Haven

The 88th annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine will be held in New Haven, Connecticut, April 30-May 3, 2015. Join us as we celebrate our 90th Birthday.

Located on Long Island Sound in southern New England, New Haven lies at the juncture/boundary between the New England climate to the north and the milder East coast climate to the south. Spring is mild, with high temperatures at the time of the meeting hovering in the low 60s. It is a wonderful moment for spring flowers.

The meeting hotel is the Omni New Haven at 155 Temple Street. Telephone: (203) 772-6664. The special conference rate of \$155 plus 15% state and local taxes at the Omni compares favorably with tariffs at other hotels in downtown New Haven. Two hotels at Long Wharf—a 10-15 minute drive—offer complimentary shuttle bus service into downtown New Haven: the Long Wharf -- La Quinta Inn www.lq.com/en.html (rates start at \$75 per night) and the Long Wharf – Premiere Hotels and Suites newhavensuites.com/ (rates start at around \$119 per night).

The Program Committee for AAHM 2015 has assembled an exciting program featuring panels, roundtable discussions, traditional paper sessions, and other events presented by an international group of scholars and practitioners.

Highlights of the meeting include the Garrison Lecture on Friday evening at Yale’s Battell Chapel. The Garrison Reception that will follow will take place one block away in the heart of Yale University, Sterling Memorial Library, where we will have the nave, cloisters, courtyard, and adjacent reading room of the newly restored cathedral-like spaces to ourselves. On Saturday evening we will celebrate the

AAHM's 90th "birthday." In lieu of the traditional conference banquet, this evening event will feature a reception open to all held at Yale's The Commons.

Special events include a Thursday afternoon roundtable (5:00 pm-7:00 pm) marking the 50th anniversary of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision *Griswold v. Connecticut*, in which the court overturned the constitutionality of the state's law that had long restricted access to birth control and contraceptive information, paving the way for all American women to have legal access to safe and reliable birth control methods. Opening with the first-hand experience of one of the plaintiffs in the case, the roundtable will use the *Griswold* decision as a vehicle for exploring the recent history and current status of reproductive rights in the United States. A documentary film session later on Thursday (7:00-9:00 pm), following the opening reception at the Omni, will screen *In the Shadow of Ebola*. The film is an intimate story of a family and a nation torn apart by the Ebola outbreak. Caught in an invisible war that is painfully reminiscent of the chaos and confusion they lived through during a fourteen-year civil war, a family and a people find the compassion and inner resolve to combat the spread of the virus.

Three tours will be available, including walking tours of Yale campus to highlight the Yale Libraries and campus architecture by Louis Kahn, Eero Saarinen, Paul Rudolph, Cesar Pelli, John Gambel Rogers, Norman Foster, and Philip Johnson (in addition to the ubiquitous gothic); a tour of the newly renovated Yale Art Gallery, a small gem; and a viewing of the treasures of the Medical Historical Library. Holding one of the country's largest collections of rare medical books, journals, prints, photographs, and pamphlets, it was founded in 1941 by Harvey Cushing, John F. Fulton, and Arnold C. Klebs. The Library owns over fifty medieval and renaissance manuscripts, Arabic and Persian manuscripts, and over 300 medical incunabula, as well as an exceptional collection of prints, drawings, and posters on medical subjects.

A graduate student lunch will be held on Friday May 1, 12:00 pm-1:30 pm, in the backroom of BAR, a local institution a block and a half from the Omni Hotel that serves traditional New Haven style thick crust brick oven pizza and BAR's own fresh micro brewed beer. Advance registration for the subsidized lunch is \$7.50.

We are pleased to say that CME credit has been arranged through SUNY-Stony Brook, with 21.5 hours of credit and a fee of \$100.

The Omni Hotel is conveniently located in downtown New Haven close to restaurants and shops and a block away from the campus of Yale University, where term will still be in session. Places of interest include the Yale University Art Gallery, the British Art Center, and at the time of our conference they will be joining together for their first major collaborative exhibition. *The Critique of Reason* comprises more than three hundred paintings, sculptures, medals, watercolors, drawings, prints, and photographs by such iconic artists as William Blake, Théodore Géricault, Francisco de Goya, and J. M. W. Turner. Also at Yale is the Peabody Museum for Natural History, among the oldest, largest, and most prolific university natural history museums in the world. Founded by the philanthropist George Peabody in 1866 at the behest of his nephew, paleontologist Othneil Charles March, the Peabody is best known to the public for its Great Hall of Dinosaurs.

The conference coincides with the world premier of *Elevada* at the Yale Repertory Theatre, the internationally celebrated professional theatre in residence at Yale School of Drama located three blocks from the Omni Hotel. Described as a warm, witty, and wise romantic comedy about the fear of being alone—and the fear of *not* being alone, *Elevada* is a finalist for the 2014 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, and marks the Yale Rep debut of Sheila Callaghan, "a gutsy writer with a gift for creating vivid images rooted in the emotional life of her characters" (*The New York Times*). Music at the time of the conference includes, on Friday, May 1, at 7:30 in Woolsey Hall,

the Philharmonia Orchestra of Yale playing works by Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky, and Strauss; on Saturday, May 2, at 5:00 pm, Beethoven's Mass in C Major sung by Yale Schola Cantorum at Woolsey Hall (admission free); and on May 2 at 8:00 pm and May 3 at 2:00 pm, Yale Opera's spring production in the Morse Recital Hall. Information and tickets at music.yale.edu/resources/campus/sprague/.

For those with time for research, Yale's Medical Historical Library is located just inside Sterling Hall of Medicine at 333 Cedar Street, about a fifteen minute walk from the Omni Hotel (open Monday–Friday 10:00 am–noon, 1:00 pm–4:30 pm or by appointment outside these hours. *Teratology: The Science and History of Human Monstrosity* will be on view in the Cushing Rotunda, together with *Prodigies and Marvels* on view in the Library corridor. The Library is home to The Cushing Center which is one of the more popular visitors' sites on the Yale campus. The small museum houses Cushing's pathological specimens (brains), patient photographs, memorabilia, and selections from his well-known collections.

There are many options for traveling to New Haven from New York City and elsewhere. By train, New Haven Union Station (NHV) is served by both Metro-North as0.mta.info/mnr/schedules/sched_form.cfm (out of New York Grand Central) and Amtrak Amtrak.com (out of New York Penn Station and elsewhere). These rail lines link up to the major New York City area airports (JFK, Newark, and LaGuardia), and the station is a brief taxi ride from the Omni New Haven. There is also shuttle service from the New York airports to New Haven. Alternatively, participants may want to fly into either Hartford-Bradley International Airport or Tweed New Haven, which makes connections through Philadelphia. For more information on traveling to New Haven, including driving directions, see Yale's guide to transportation options at the conference website.

John Harley Warner
Chair, Local Arrangements Committee

AAHM Nominations

The report of the AAHM Nominating Committee appears on [page 19](#). Biographies for the nominated candidates appear below. The election will take place at the business meeting during the annual meeting in New Haven, CT, on Saturday, 2 May.

Candidate for Treasurer

Hughes Evans received her M.D. and Ph.D. (History of Science) from Harvard University. She is a board certified general pediatrician and has spent the last 21 years on faculty at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) where she is currently Professor of Pediatrics, Chair of the Department of Medical Education and Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education. At UAB she developed and co-directed a required course in history of medicine. When the medical curriculum was overhauled in 2006, much of the content of that course was redistributed over other courses. Her teaching efforts also include mentoring student research on medical humanities topics and teaching courses using film, fiction, and history of medicine to examine the image of the physician; the role of disease; and the evolution of medical education. Her dissertation examined the development of hospital care for children in 19th and early 20th century Boston. Her research has also looked at the history of child sexual abuse. She joined the AAHM in 1984 and has been an active member ever since. She has served on Council (2006-2009) and on numerous AAHM award and ad hoc committees. She chaired the Program Committee for the 2006 annual meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia and served on the Local Arrangements Committee in 2005 when the meeting was held in Birmingham, Alabama.

Candidate for Secretary

Jodi L. Koste is an associate professor in the Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries where she serves as University Archivist and Head of Special Collections and Archives at the Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences. She holds a B.A. and

M.A. in history from Old Dominion University. Koste is the author of several articles, biographical sketches, and book reviews related to Civil War medicine, the history of nursing in Virginia, institutional history, and archival administration. Since the fall of 2004, she has served as co-editor for the *AAHM NewsLetter*. She has also served on several committees and task forces for the AAHM while attending the annual meeting on a regular basis since 1982. A former president of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS), Koste has been active in the Society of American Archivists and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference from whom she received the organization's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, in 2009. She is currently serving as AAHM Secretary.

Candidates for Council Member:

Joel Braslow is the Frances M. O'Malley Chair in Neuroscience History and a professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences and the Department of History hssm.semel.ucla.edu/. He directs the Social Science Track in the UCLA-Caltech Medical Sciences Training Program. His work examines the social, cultural, historical, and scientific context of mental health policy and treatment practices for severe mental illness. He is author of *Mental Ills and Bodily Cures: Psychiatric Treatment in the First Half of the Twentieth Century* (1997) and is currently working on a "biography" of schizophrenia for Johns Hopkins University Press. He has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Mental Health since 2000. He also has been funded by a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Investigator Award in Health Policy, the Society for Neuroscience, the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, and the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. He first became a member of the AAHM in the mid 1990s and served on the editorial board of the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* from 2005 to 2007. Braslow received his B.S. in Biology from

Stanford University, his M.D. from Loma Linda University, and his Ph.D. from UCLA.

Beth Linker is an Associate Professor at the University of Pennsylvania in the Department of the History and Sociology of Science, where she is also the Director of the Health and Societies Program. She is the author of *War's Waste: Rehabilitation in World War I America* (2011) and co-editor of *Civil Disabilities: Citizenship, Membership, and Belonging* (2015). Her work has appeared in numerous scholarly journals as well as in *The Boston Globe* and *The Huffington Post*. She has received funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for her current project *Slouch: The Rise and Fall of American Posture*. She has been a member of the AAHM since 2001 and has served on the Shryock Committee, the Local Arrangements Committee, the Garrison Lecture Committee, and the Annual Meetings Committee. She currently serves on the editorial board of the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. Linker earned her B.S. in Physical Therapy from Ithaca College and her Ph.D. in the History of Science and Medicine from Yale University.

Paul A. Lombardo is a Professor of Law at Georgia State University in Atlanta and an historian of the American eugenics movement. His books include *Three Generations, No Imbeciles: Eugenics, the Supreme Court and Buck v. Bell* (2008), and *A Century of Eugenics in America: From the Indiana Experiment to the Human Genome Era* (ed. 2010). Lombardo was a member of the Cold Spring Harbor (NY) Laboratory panel that assembled the digital Image Archive on American Eugenics Movement and was a contributor and consultant to the U.S. Memorial Holocaust Museum exhibit, *Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race*. Professor Lombardo serves as a Senior Advisor to the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues, where he participated in the investigation of the WWII era NIH Guatemala STD studies. From 1990 to 2006 he was a faculty member in the Schools of Law and Medicine at the University of Virginia, where he received both his Ph.D. and

J.D. degrees. He has been a member of AAHM since 1999.

Micaela Sullivan-Fowler is the Curator of Rare Books & Special Collections and Head of Marketing & Communication at the Ebling Library for the Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is the history of the health sciences liaison librarian for UW's Department of Medical History & Bioethics; assisting undergraduates in research for their primary resource based papers, and working with faculty and graduate students on their research endeavors. Micaela has installed numerous exhibits at Ebling over the past several years, often in conjunction with UW's Common Book Reading Program, Go Big Read. Two of her personal favorites were *Fallout: The Mixed Blessing of Radiation & the Public Health* and *Seaworthy: A History of Maritime Health & Medicine*. She oversees the web-based Ebling Library news items and Ebling's social media components. She was the past Secretary Treasurer and Past President of the Archivists & Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences. She has been a member of the AAHM since the 1980s when she was historical librarian at the American Medical Association. She has been on countless committees regarding awards, marketing, membership, procedure manuals, etc. for AAHM and ALHHS. Micaela was part of Local Arrangements for the 2004 AAHM annual meeting in Madison and Local Arrangements (from afar) for the ALHHS annual meeting in Halifax. Micaela earned a Masters in Library Science from the University of Illinois-Urbana and a Masters in History from Loyola University in Chicago. For those who remember, Micaela was responsible for the Albinus/Cow design on the AAHM tote bag for the aforementioned Madison conference.

Ninety for the Ninetieth: Building the Next Generation

There is still time to make a donation to the AAHM in honor of the Associations' ninetieth birthday. The Ninety for the Ninetieth fundraising campaign commemorates our birthday while creating an account to support young scholars in the early stages

of their careers. We hope to expand the travel fund so that participation at the annual meeting becomes more feasible, and explore other ways to help such scholars achieve professional success. Please join us in contributing \$90 (or more) in honor of the AAHM's 90th birthday, and to support the continued vigor of our academic enterprise. Donate online at aahm.press.jhu.edu/membership/join. Donations may also be sent to Margaret Marsh, AAHM Treasurer, Armitage Hall 337, 311 North 5th Street, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ 08102.

Education and Outreach Committee

Survey Conducted to Ascertain Member Interest in the Program of the Annual Conference

INTRODUCTION

The program for the 2014 Annual Conference of the American Association for the History of Medicine contained several experimental elements, including a screening of short films and sessions with more presenters but shorter papers. After the conference, the Education and Outreach Committee constructed a preliminary survey to determine whether and to what extent members of the AAHM would like non-traditional elements on the program. This report presents the results of the survey, along with recommendations for further development of the annual conference program.

SURVEY DISTRIBUTION AND RESPONSE

The eight-question survey was written by the Education and Outreach Committee, implemented in SurveyMonkey, and distributed to the membership of the AAHM via email. The survey was accessible for three months. Of approximately 1,000 members, 112 (11%) completed the survey. Seventy-eight (70%) of the respondents attended the 2014 annual conference, and 34 (30%) did not. The low response rate means that we cannot be very confident that this sample is representative of the membership as a

whole. Thus, the results should be considered suggestive, not conclusive.

Due to technical difficulties, survey question one is omitted from this report. Question one directed respondents to check all applicable options, but the system allowed selection of only a single option. Some members also reported confusion about how to respond to questions three and four on the survey, which required respondents to rank their choices, so those questions (and all the following questions) may have received fewer responses as a result.

RESULTS

Q2: Whether you attended the Chicago meeting or not, how interested are you in having a space for nontraditional sessions on the program that allow for roundtable discussions, integrated panel sessions, and other forms of scholarly communication beyond the 20 minute paper?

Of the 112 respondents (100%) who answered this question, 76 (68%) reported being “very interested”, 29 (26%) reported being “somewhat interested”, and 7 (6%) reported being “not interested”. Even with the small sample size, these results are likely to be representative of the membership as a whole with a margin of error of $\pm 10\%$ ($p = 0.05$). This suggests that **AAHM members are interested in a more diverse program.**

Q3: On a scale from 1 to 10 (with 1 being most interested and 10 being not at all interested), please rank how interested you would be in presentations, roundtables, or workshops on the following topics. If you are not interested in any of these topics, please leave blank and skip to the next question.

Respondents were asked about their relevant interest in the following ten topics for nontraditional sessions: (a) editing Wikipedia entries, (b) designing educational games or simulations, (c) blogging, (d) content creation tools, such as Omeka, (e) video production, (f) developing online activities or courses, (g) digital research techniques, (h) “Reacting to the Past” or

other classroom activities, (i) engaging health professions students or programs, and (j) engaging K-12 schools or teachers.

Ninety respondents (80%) answered this question, so at least 80% of respondents are interested in sessions on one or more of these alternative topics at the annual conference. (Note: Because of confusion among some respondents about how to respond to the ranking questions in SurveyMonkey, we cannot assume that non-responses indicate non-interest.) To assess the extent to which respondents are interested (or not interested) in various topics, we calculated the percentage of respondents who rated a topic 1, 2, or 3 and the percentage of respondents who rated a topic 8, 9, or 10. The topics that were most frequently rated in the top three are digital research techniques (58%) and engaging health professions students or programs (57%). The topics that were most frequently rated in the bottom three are engaging K-12 schools or teachers (49%), designing educational games or simulations (44%), and editing Wikipedia entries (43%). While these findings may not be representative of the membership as a whole, the AAHM should consider including in the CFP for the annual conference a specific request for **sessions focused on digital research techniques or engaging the health professions.**

Q4: On a scale from 1 to 6 (with 1 being most interested and 6 being not at all interested), please rank how interested you would be in presentations, roundtables, or workshops on the following professional development topics. If you are not interested in any of these topics, please leave blank and skip to the next question.

Respondents were asked about their relevant interest in the following six topics for professional development sessions: (a) non-academic or alternative academic (alt-ac) careers, (b) job materials (CVs, cover letters, teaching portfolios, &c.), (c) interviewing, (d) grant

writing, (e) publishing, and (f) “getting on the program” (abstract preparation).

Eighty-one respondents (72%) answered this question, so at least 72% of respondents are interested in sessions on one or more professional development topics at the annual conference. (Note: Because of confusion among some respondents about how to respond to the ranking questions in SurveyMonkey, we cannot assume that non-responses indicate non-interest.) To assess the extent to which respondents are interested (or not interested) in various topics, we calculated the percentage of respondents who rated a topic 1 or 2 and the percentage of respondents who rated a topic 5 or 6. The topics that were most frequently rated in the top two are non-academic or alternative academic (alt-ac) careers (56%), publishing (54%), and grant writing (43%). The topics that were most frequently rated in the bottom two are “getting on the program” (abstract preparation) (64%) and interviewing (41%). While these findings may not be representative of the membership as a whole, the AAHM should consider including in the CFP for the annual conference a specific request for **sessions focused on alternative career paths, publishing, or grant writing**.

Q5: If a session were set up to showcase undergraduate research, would you recommend to your advanced undergraduates that they submit an abstract and/or attend the annual conference?

Respondents were asked about their relevant interest in encouraging undergraduate presentations at the annual conference. Of the 91 (80%) who answered this question, 22 (24%) would recommend submission, and 17 (19%) would do so depending on the availability of travel support and/or reduced registration fees for undergraduates. Ten (11%) would not recommend to undergraduates that they submit an abstract, and 30 (33%) do not work with undergraduates. It is difficult to draw any

conclusions from these results, but **there does not seem to be widespread interest in undergraduate presentations at the annual conference**.

Q6: Are there any presentation or workshop topics, besides those listed previously, that you would like to see at the annual conference?

Ninety-one respondents (80%) answered this free-response question. Of those, 47 (52%) responded “no” or had no specific suggestions, and many others restated topics from questions 3 and 4. It is difficult to make any generalizations about the remaining responses, though most of them express an interest either in expanding the options for the format of presentations or expanding the topical range of presentations.

Q7: Are there any communication formats, besides 20-minute research presentations and lunch sessions, that you’d like to see at the annual conference (e.g., TED, PechaKucha, posters, &c.)?

Ninety-one respondents (80%) answered this free-response question. Of those, 37 (41%) responded “no” had no specific suggestions. Fifteen (16%) expressed interest in TED, PechaKucha, or some other kind of short format presentation, though 4 (4%) specifically indicated that they would not like to see TED-style talks. Twelve (13%) expressed interest in posters, and 7 (8%) expressed interest in roundtable discussions. Other suggestions included “state of the art” presentations that summarize recent work in a field, more online content and/or integration of social media (e.g., Twitter), sessions with pre-circulated papers on a common theme, physician sessions, sessions with 15-minute papers, and flipped sessions. Three (3%) specifically indicated that they would not like to see presentations in alternative formats.

Q8: Is there anything else you think the AAHM should do to broaden the appeal or the accessibility of the annual conference?

Fifty-nine respondents (65%) answered this free-response question. It is difficult to summarize all the responses, but several themes were common, including *more outreach* (e.g., to closely related disciplines, such as philosophy of medicine or medical anthropology, to physicians, to public history organizations near the conference location, &c.) and *lower costs* for attendance and/or *other ways to participate* (e.g., via online discussions/presentations).

DISCUSSION

As noted above, the number of responses received is too low to draw any conclusions about the membership as a whole. That being said, the results of this preliminary survey suggest that members are interested in continuing to experiment with the program of the annual conference as long as traditional presentations remain the central format. Further (though perhaps limited) experiments with the program and additional surveys should be conducted to gain a better sense of how best to serve the needs of the membership.

This survey has several limitations beyond the small sample size and the technical difficulties with question one. First, we had difficulty obtaining complete data (in machine-readable form) from SurveyMonkey. For example, we were unable to correlate responses to the survey questions with whether or not the respondent attended the conference in Chicago, which featured several experimental features. Second, question 3 should be formatted so as to avoid rank ordering, which many respondents found confusing. Furthermore, by forcing rank ordering, we cannot determine how much respondents were actually interested in various options. Lastly, questions 6 and 7 were worded such that a response of “no” (or the equivalent) is ambiguous, as it is unclear if it means that the respondent is uninterested in alternative topics or formats or if it means that the respondent is not interested in *any particular* alternative topics or formats.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Rima Apple was recently named Professor Extraordinarius, at the Institute for Gender Studies, at University of South Africa (UNNISA), Pretoria, South Africa.

Joel Howell co-authored an article on Ludwig van Beethoven and the impact of his cardiac arrhythmias on his compositions. The article may be found in *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine*, Volume 57, Number 2, Spring 2014.

Alain Touwaide will deliver a keynote lecture entitled “Medicinal Plants of the Mediterranean: A Unique Tradition,” at the annual banquet of the University of Iowa History of Medicine Society, Iowa City, on Friday, 24 April 2015.

As of August 2014, **Wendy Kline** is the Dema G. Seelye Chair in the History of Medicine at Purdue University.

Antony R. Rees recently published *The Antibody Molecule: From Antitoxins to Therapeutic Antibodies*, part of the Oxford Medical Series Oxford University Press, 2015.

OBITUARIES

Barbara Rosenkrantz (1923-2014)

Barbara Rosenkrantz died on 30 April 2014 after a long and disabling illness. She was best known among her fellow historians as a leader and innovator in the study of public health and population, defining it as a central concern for historians in general, and historians of medicine and science in particular. By her friends, students, and disciplinary colleagues she will be remembered as a friend and mentor, critical and analytical, yet warm and welcoming -- and as an advocate for and practitioner of interdisciplinary and collaborative scholarship. At Harvard she will be remembered as a prominent figure on campus and, in particular, as an advocate in that ancient institution's

belated efforts to find a place for women on the faculty.

Born in New York City in 1923, Barbara Gutmann was the daughter of a Columbia philosophy professor and a Wellesley-educated mother (who attended medical school for a time). After a varied education that included periods in Berlin, Vienna, and Paris, Barbara was admitted to Radcliffe in 1940, graduating in the spring of 1944. Barbara Gutmann had come of age in a generation that experienced the rise of fascism, the Spanish Civil War, and the Nazi-Soviet pact. As she explained in an oral history transcribed in 1981, she had been a pacifist but changed in the tense years after Hitler invaded Poland and then Paris and as she became involved in left politics. War altered every aspect of life and it is not surprising that she wrote a History and Literature honors thesis on "Whitman and Emerson's Attitudes towards the Civil War." "It was directed by influential literary scholar F.O. Matthiessen, who remained an intellectual hero for her throughout her life. "Matthiessen just made me," she recalled. "Whatever I am as an intellectual was fundamentally made by Matty." (Note: This quote and the phrase "retrospective epidemiology" cited later are taken from the transcript of an oral history recorded by Professor Rosenkrantz in 1981, and deposited in the Schlesinger Library, The Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University.)

But this was the last of her immersion in history for two decades. By the time she submitted her undergraduate honors thesis in December of 1943, Barbara Gutmann had become Barbara Gutmann Bennet and was soon mother of a daughter. Her husband was consumed by left politics and the marriage did not last; she was divorced and soon remarried to Paul Rosenkrantz, a fellow activist, and they soon had two daughters. Now a mother of three, she had little time for academic work in the fifties, little time to think about a possible commitment to a life of scholarship. It was, in any case, a world unfriendly to women and to mid-life entrants. Between the mid-forties and mid-sixties she held a variety of jobs -- most important in terms of her later career, that of entry-level lab technician, then

assistant director, and finally director of a bacteriological laboratory in Springfield area hospitals. It is as though her years of thinking about politics and society and her experience in the bacteriology laboratory conspired to shape her ultimate interest in public health and its history. Barbara always felt that the history of science should not be simply the history of ideas and of intellectuals, of progress in the understanding of the natural world, but should include every aspect of human experience. Historians of medicine in particular should focus on populations and health outcomes, she believed, on social and environmental context as well as ideas and institutions.

Despite her years away from the academy, she had always been interested in a life of the mind and she returned to graduate school at Clark University in 1964-5. She turned to the history department where she found sympathetic advisors in Gerald N. Grob and George Billias, who encouraged her in pursuing the history of public health. Her choice of dissertation subject was in part fortuitous, a response to the impending centennial of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, America's first such state agency. She spent two years as a fellow at Radcliffe, 1967-9 working on that centennial history which was to be her dissertation and, in published form, her landmark study of *Public Health and the State: Changing Views in Massachusetts, 1842-1936* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1972). A post-doctoral year and then a junior position in Harvard's Department of the History of Science soon followed. In 1974, Barbara was appointed as the first female faculty housemaster in Harvard's long-established undergraduate house system (along with her co-house master husband Paul, by then holder of a doctorate in psychology). She was awarded tenure in 1975 and remained active on campus until her retirement, both as colleague and inspiring teacher of undergraduate thesis writers and a distinguished group of doctoral students. She served on a variety of university committees, as department chair, and as faculty advisor to Harvard's first Gay Students Association, and for many years she held a joint

appointment at Harvard's School of Public Health, where she was a tireless advocate for history.

As a teacher she sought to encourage a point-of-view that integrated population health with the laboratory on the one hand and larger structural and social factors on the other. Very early in her career, for example, she offered Harvard undergraduates a General Education course "A Social History of Disease and Health from the Revolution to WW II" She sought consistently to make the history of medicine genuinely historical and to use public health history as a tool for understanding those other aspects of society that shaped health outcomes; thus her long-term interest in tuberculosis, which seemed a sensitive tool for investigating the complex ways in which social and economic as well as intellectual developments shaped morbidity and mortality. She taught an integrative course organized around the history of the disease (and edited a valuable anthology of readings that grew out of the same course. (*From Consumption to Tuberculosis. A Documentary History* (New York and London: Garland Publishing, 1994). It was a form of what she called "retrospective epidemiology," an approach that included immunology, bacteriology, and population studies as well as more traditional historical sources. It is an approach that seems extraordinarily timely, even fashionable, in 2014.

Her interdisciplinary and contextual orientation was also reflected in her teaching and research, in particular in her extraordinary capacity for collaboration. She undertook joint projects with William A. Koelsch, a Clark University geographer on environmental history (resulting in *American Habitat: A Historical Perspective* ([New York: Free Press, 1973]), with Maris Vinovskis on a quantitative study based on patient records, with Peter Buck on twentieth-century philanthropy and health policy, and with Warwick Anderson and Myles Jackson on autoimmune disease. In a similarly open and interdisciplinary way she team taught courses with a variety of diversely eminent Harvard scholars ranging from Jean Mayer and Stephen Gould to Nathan Huggins and Allan Brandt. Barbara Rosenkrantz

never lost her faith in the university as a place to teach, to explore, and to live. We need such friends and colleagues and we miss her in so many ways.

Charles Rosenberg

ARCHIVES/LIBRARIES/MUSEUMS

Medical Heritage Library collaborators the **Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions** www.medicalarchives.jhmi.edu/ and the **Center for the History of Medicine at the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine** www.countway.harvard.edu/index.html are pleased to announce the distribution of their jointly authored recommended practices to enable access to manuscript and archival collections containing health information about individuals available here www.medicalheritage.org/announcements-and-articles/ under "Documentation." These recommendations are intended to alleviate many of the concerns repositories have related to collecting and preserving health services records, especially those repositories that are not affiliated with hospitals or medical schools.

The recommendations are presented in four categories: 1) Determining an Institution's Status and Policy Needs; 2) Implementing Policy and Fostering Process Transparency; 3) Communicating the Nature of Restrictions; and 4) Describing Records to Best Enable Discovery and Access. Those who care for and provide access to records containing health information about individuals are invited to test the recommendations and provide feedback on their utility; those who use such records in their research are equally invited to comment on their scope.

Researchers who have used or are seeking access to primary sources containing health information about individuals are encouraged to share their experiences and difficulties accessing health services records. Visit the MHL's researcher access survey

site www.surveymonkey.com/r/M38FD39 and contribute to our efforts to improve access to these important records.

For more information, please contact the Medical Heritage Library at MedicalHeritage@gmail.com. This work was made possible through the generous funding of the Mellon Foundation through the Council for Library and Information Resources' Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives www.clir.org/hiddencollections program (2012: Private Practices, Public Health: Privacy-Aware Processing to Maximize Access to Health Collections wiki.med.harvard.edu/Countway/ArchivalCollaboratives/PrivatePractices).

The New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM) and New York Public Radio (NYPR) have digitized, cataloged, and mounted 40 radio broadcasts produced by NYAM and originally broadcast over WNYC radio in the 1950s. These lectures are drawn from the more than 1,500 original lacquer discs transferred from NYAM to the NYPR Archives in 2008. This was a joint project between the Center for the History of Medicine and Public Health and the New York Public Radio (NYPR) Archives, and supported by a grant from METRO, the New York Metropolitan Library Council. Among the lectures are those featuring Leona Baumgartner, New York City's first woman health commissioner; cancer pioneer Sidney Farber; American microbiologist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author René Dubos; acclaimed anthropologist and social critic Margaret Mead; Norbert Wiener, father of cybernetics; and discussions of the Freud Centenary and Lincoln's doctors.

Finding aids for the Medical Society of the County of New York Records, 1806-1989 (68 linear feet) and Charaka Club Records, 1898-2012 (7 linear feet) are now available online. The Medical Society of the County of New York was founded in 1806 and exists today as the New York County Medical Society. The Charaka Club is a small, New York based society of doctors interested in the historical, literary, and

artistic aspects of medicine. The Center's archival finding aids may be browsed at: www.nyam.org/library/collections-and-resources/archives.

The National Museum of Health and Medicine has recently posted over 100 new finding aids, as well as a new 254-page guide to its collections www.medicalmuseum.mil/assets/documents/collections/archives/2014/Guide-to-Collections-2014.pdf. The breadth of medical subjects highlighted in these new finding aids extends to the history of forensic medicine, entomology, electron microscopy, medical illustrations, nursing, penicillin research, photo-micrography, physical therapy, pathology, and yellow fever. For those interested in the history of the Army Medical Museum, new finding aids also chronicle its early work. Some particularly rich collections related to these subjects, which may be of particular interest to archivists and librarians in the history of the health sciences, are described below.

Forensic Medicine: The Stahl Collection (OHA 315.5) contains materials from the first formal resident in forensic pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP), and the first Navy officer to enter that field, Dr. Charles J. Stahl. Appointed as an approved pathologist for the State of Maryland while completing his residency in the early 1960s, Stahl conducted autopsies in Montgomery County and Baltimore during off duty hours. After finishing his residency, Stahl then spent two years in Guam as the Chief of Laboratory Service and Deputy Medical Examiner from 1963-1964. In 1965, he began his assignment as the Chief of Forensic Pathology at the AFIP, where he remained for the next ten years. During this period, Stahl led the largest department at the Institute, helped develop an extensive educational program, and consulted on a number of high profile cases including the Vietnam War crimes that inspired the film *Casualties of War*, the deaths of three NASA astronauts at Cape Kennedy, and the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy. After stints at the Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, the Department of Veteran Affairs in Tennessee, and Wright State University,

Stahl became the Deputy Medical Inspector for the Naval Medical Research Institute; he returned to the AFIP in October of 1992, as the Chief Armed Forces Medical Examiner, and remained in that position until his retirement. Subjects in the collection include anatomical and clinical pathology, forensic pathology, development of forensic pathology at AFIP, aerospace pathology, AFIP training, Vietnam, forensic military cases, Project Gemini, Robert Kennedy, pathology at the Naval Medical Center, and the AFIP's Medical Examiner's Office.

Material in this collection is complemented by the Wright Collection (OHA 375.2), which chronicles the work of Dr. Donald Gene Wright who served as a medical technician and pilot in the Air Force, logging over 3,300 hours of B-52 time from 1958-1965. Wright went on to earn his medical degree from the University of Missouri in Columbia in 1969 where he began his internship and residency, finishing at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas. He completed his forensic residency at AFIP in 1984, received his training at the medical examiner's offices in Baltimore and Washington, DC, and became well-known as a specialist in the investigation of aircraft accidents and mass disasters. After retiring in 1990, he served for several years as Deputy Chief Medical Examiner for the State of Maryland. The bulk of the collection consists of over 15,000 slides from Wright's collection of forensic pathology cases. Manuscripts in the collection include military and professional service records, administrative material, lectures, articles, and material related to Wright's investigations and research, including some photographs.

Medical Illustrations: The Civil War Medical Illustrations Collection (OHA 135.05) offers graphic depictions of the work captured by trained artists who were recruited by Army Medical Museum Curator John Brinton in the early years of the Civil War. Brinton had illustrators enlist as hospital stewards who were then assigned to duty in the Surgeon General's office. Given the number of casualties during the war, both the Confederacy and the Union needed to educate as many doctors as

possible in the skills of military medicine. Medical illustrations were used to depict wounds commonly encountered but rarely seen by civilian practitioners, and were used to demonstrate surgical procedures and the reasons for those procedures. Many of the illustrations in this collection also subsequently appeared in the *Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion*, a six-volume set of books that played a critically important role in illustrating the lessons learned on battlefields. The Medical Illustrations Collection (OHA 229) is an artificial collection of medical art (completed primarily by Museum staff), and includes illustrations from the nineteenth century, World War I era, the interwar period, and World War II through the 1960s. This collection is organized into three series based on chronology. Within each series the illustrations are organized by the individual artists represented. The collection includes a wide range of military medicine subjects such as battlefield wounds, anatomical and pathological studies, hygiene and preventive medicine measures, and innovative surgical techniques.

Medical Research: A number of collections with new finding aids also relate to medical research, primarily covering the period from the Spanish-American War to the Vietnam War. The Osborn Collection (OHA 258.05) includes material related to the service, medical career, and personal life of Dr. William S. Osborn, who joined the U.S. Army in 1899 at age 22 as a hospital corpsman. Osborn spent at least a year stationed in California before serving in the Philippines until 1902. He then graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the University of Illinois in Chicago in 1904 and went on to work as superintendent at the Wisconsin State Hospital for the Insane and the State Hospital for the Insane in Knoxville, TN during the 1920s. Items of note in the collection include notebooks from the Army Pathological Laboratory and Santa Mesa Hospital in the Philippines (1900-1901); letters written by Osborn to his colleagues and friends describing life in the Philippines; and three personal scrapbooks made by Osborn and continued by his daughter after his death. Additional items include material on his

daughter Clare Osborn, a nutritionist, reprints on the subject of fevers in the Philippines, and photographs of the Army Pathological Laboratory and life in Manila. The Elton Collection (OHA 153) includes papers and research material gathered by pathologist Norman W. Elton, primarily for his studies of yellow fever in Central America in the 1940s and 1950s, when he served on the Canal Zone Board of Health. Elton served in the Panama Canal Zone and Philippines during World War II and was appointed a Colonel in the Medical Corps and Director of the Board of Health Laboratory at Gorgas Hospital in the Canal Zone in 1948. Elton published widely on various subjects in several medical journals throughout his career and became one of the foremost experts on yellow fever in the 1950s. Additional background material on the Board of Health Laboratory and yellow fever research dates to the late 1800s and early 1900s. Materials include Panama Canal Zone government documents, correspondence, patient records, reprints, notes, photographs, newsclippings, maps, X-rays, and slides.

The finding aids for these and other collections are available by contacting the Museum at: www.medicalmuseum.mil/index.cfm?p=collections.archives.collections.index.

The Library of the American Philosophical Society recently finished the reprocessing of the papers of Francis John Worsley Roughton (1899-1972) www.amphilsoc.org/collections/view?docId=ead/Mss.B.R755ead.xml;query=&brand=default. A physiologist and biochemist, Roughton spent his career at the University of Cambridge. The central focus of his research was the chemistry and physiology of oxygen and carbon dioxide transportation in blood. It can be argued that his most important contribution to science was the isolation, with Norman Urquhart Meldrum (1907-1933), of carbonic anhydrase, an enzyme that accelerates the uptake and discharge of CO₂ in the blood. Roughton's research generally followed out of his work in the 1920s. His early studies on diffusion were later broadened to include chemical reaction

processes, theoretical and experimental analyses of factors that determine the rates of penetration of oxygen and carbon monoxide into red blood cells, and the transport of carbon dioxide in the blood. His measurements of oxygen association curves were important in elucidating the action of hemoglobin. In 1946 Roughton became chairman of the Department of Colloid Science at Cambridge, a center for research on surface chemistry and biophysical chemistry

Roughton developed a successful research program in England, but he worked often in America, where he lectured and conducted research during extended visits. He spent much of World War II in the United States working on war projects such as carbon monoxide shock and studies in aviation medicine at the Harvard Fatigue Laboratory and the Physiological Laboratory of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons; he remained associated with military research on blood physiology long after the war. In the 1950s and 1960s he also spent several semesters at the University of Pennsylvania, working closely with his colleague and former student Britton Chance (1913-2010).

The APS is currently processing the Chance Papers. Because of the close bonds that Roughton had with American scientists, his papers were deposited at the APS. The collection contains notebooks, drafts of papers, manuscripts, lecture notes, calculations, laboratory manuals, annotated books from Roughton's personal library, reprints, photographs, and correspondence. The papers document Roughton's research in Cambridge and America, his war activities, and broader aspects of physiology, biophysics, and physical biochemistry. While the papers are primarily from the Department of Colloid Science at the University of Cambridge, also represented are lectures and notes from the Harvard Fatigue Laboratory, the University of Pennsylvania, and Milan, Italy. A copious note keeper, his stray thoughts are jotted down throughout the 71 linear foot collection.

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

The National Library of Medicine asks you to consider responding to this very important and time-sensitive NIH Request for Information (RFI) grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-067.html, soliciting input into the deliberations of the advisory committee to the recently-announced NIH Director Working Group on the National Library of Medicine.

The RFI is a very important opportunity to contribute feedback regarding the value of the National Library of Medicine and its History of Medicine Division www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/, and to influence directly the future of this organization.

Responses to this RFI must be submitted electronically via this URL: grants.nih.gov/grants/rfi.cfm?ID=41, and they will ONLY be accepted through 13 March 2015.

NLM announces the release of a new Turning the Pages virtual book on its website: archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/ttp/books.htm. The new project features selections from a colorfully illustrated 19th century manuscript from Mongolia on astrology and divination following Mongolian and Tibetan Buddhist traditions. Astrology is one of the oldest branches of knowledge, and it served for many years as a core to the belief systems of the people of Mongolia. This anonymous and untitled manuscript from the 19th century contains dozens of charts used by Mongolian astrologers, who were generally Buddhist monks. They used these charts to calculate calendars with auspicious days for various activities and forecast seasonal climate, eclipses, and other events based on the positions of planets, the sun, the moon, and the constellations. The book is hand-copied and embellished with remarkable illustrations, each of which was created by the hand of an artist who was likely a monk familiar with the artistic symbols of Buddhism.

NLM is pleased to announce that it is now a participating institution of the Commons on Flickr. The Commons on Flickr was launched in 2008 as a pilot project in partnership with the Library of Congress to increase access to publicly-held photography collections and to invite the general public to provide information about the collections. Images from the historical collections of the History of Medicine Division, including public health posters, book illustrations, photographs, works of fine art, and ephemera, have always been available through the Images from the History of Medicine database, which includes over 70,000 images illustrating the social and historical aspects of medicine dated from the 15th to the 21st century. Now, they can also be accessed through the Commons on Flickr via a photostream www.flickr.com/photos/nlmhmd/ where visitors can contribute information about the images by adding comments and tags. By adding a new way to see the collections through Flickr, NLM hopes to learn more details about its collections, create dialogue about its holdings, and share knowledge with the public. The collection of images on Flickr will continue to grow; visitors to the site should check back frequently for new content.

On 31 October 1940, just days before President Franklin Delano Roosevelt would be elected to an unprecedented third term as President of the United States, he traveled to Bethesda, MD, to dedicate the National Cancer Institute and the new campus of what was then the National Institute of Health (NIH), before it would eventually become known in plural form—National Institutes of Health—as multiple units were established over subsequent years. That late October afternoon, Roosevelt stood on the steps of the new main NIH building, ready to address a crowd of 3,000 people. NLM is making the film of Roosevelt's speech available online for the first time, nearly 74 years after the President made his speech. Sound recordings, transcripts, and photographs of this event have been available publicly for many years. The film is publicly available via the NLM's Digital Collections archive

collections.nlm.nih.gov/catalog/nlm:nlmuid-101205101-vid of over 10,000 biomedical books and videos, and its YouTube site www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrVZbllYljo. While researchers have long been able to hear Roosevelt's support for public health and medical research, now they can see him state some of his powerful words from this important speech, and truly appreciate the experience of being in the audience on that historic day.

News from the Wellcome Library

A new volume of Wellcome Witnesses to Contemporary Medicine is freely available to download at the History of Modern Biomedicine Research Group website: *The Development of Narrative Practices in Medicine c.1960–c.2000* www.histmodbiomed.org/witsem/vol52. Chaired by Professor Brian Hurwitz (King's College), this Witness Seminar discusses the origins and evolution of 'narrative medicine' as an intellectual and educational field.

Featuring the testimonies of contributors from the USA, Canada, UK, and Europe, topics include the introduction of humanities into medical education; the influence of medical ethics debates, and the development of bioethics; the impact of political and social movements, for example on disability issues; the emergence of palliative care; patient literature on illness experiences such as cancer, as well as the interdisciplinary underpinnings of narrative practices in medicine derived from philosophical spheres such as hermeneutics, and from the fields of psychoanalysis, psychiatry, and the social sciences.

Jones E M, Tansey E M. (eds) (2015) Wellcome Witnesses to Contemporary Medicine, vol. 52. London: Queen Mary University of London. ISBN 978 0 90223 898 5. For further details of this and other volumes in the series visit: www.histmodbiomed.org/article/wellcome-witnesses-volumes.

The complete John Sulston archive (PP/SUL) has been catalogued and is available to researchers in the Library. Section A focuses on Sulston's Nobel Prize-winning work on the nematode worm *Caenorhabditis elegans* (*C. elegans*). His findings had a profound impact on genetic and genomic research and his efforts to sequence the worm's genome became the pilot project for sequencing the human genome. Section B covers Sulston's role as Director of the Sanger Centre (now the Sanger Institute) and his involvement in the international Human Genome Project, and Section C concentrates on his work after stepping down as director in 2000.

Partly to gain the resources needed to finish sequencing the worm's genome, Sulston sought funding from the Wellcome Trust and Medical Research Council (MRC) to establish a UK-based center that would sequence part of the human genome as well as the genomes of other organisms. The result was the Sanger Centre, named after the double Nobel Prize-winning biochemist Fred Sanger, who officially opened the Centre in October, 1993. Sulston was the Centre's first director, playing an important role in developing its structure and direction as well as steering it through its teething problems. Many of the archival records relating to the Sanger Centre are closed due to on-going operational issues, but researchers can explore the records regarding laboratory work undertaken by the Centre in the 1990s, which included genomic research into many organisms such as yeast, zebrafish and pathogens. As Director, Sulston oversaw the expansion of the Centre's human genome work from a pilot study in the first few years to a multinational seven-year project to sequence the entire human genome in collaboration with Bob Waterston's team at Washington University and other international laboratories. The Sulston archive documents the work of the publically-funded Human Genome Project and includes high-level strategy and co-ordination discussions alongside papers covering the sequencing of different chromosomes. The archive contains correspondence between collaborators, sequencing data and chromosome sequencing meeting papers, which all together illustrate the

crucial role international collaboration played in the Human Genome Project. The archive also covers the public relations work surrounding the announcement of the draft sequence in 2000 and its publication in 2001. A “gold standard” version was later announced by the Human Genome Project in April, 2003. Sulston stepped down as Director of the Sanger Centre in October, 2000 but has remained active in the scientific community. He co-wrote *The Common Thread: A Story of Science, Politics, Ethics and the Human Genome* (2001) with the science writer Georgina Ferry, which set out his personal account of the Human Genome Project. More recently, Sulston has sat on various committees and working groups and has been in high demand as a guest speaker on the subject of bioethics and the implications of the Human Genome Project. Section C of the archive charts Sulston’s post-Sanger professional life and includes records on his work with the Human Genetics Commission (a government advisory body), his 2001 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures and the book tours undertaken to promote *The Common Thread*.

Wellcome Weather is a new experiment in the Sandbox on the Wellcome Library website wellcomelibrary.org/what-we-do/sandbox/wellcome-weather. In this prototype, we’re using pictures from Wellcome Images to illustrate the current weather conditions in London. In January 2014, Wellcome Images released over 100,000 high resolution images for use under the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) license. This provides plenty of weather-related images to match with the current weather conditions. Keeping with the open source theme, the current weather conditions are taken from OpenWeatherMap.

Over 80 boxes of material from the archive of Mind, the leading mental health charity in England and Wales, are now available for consultation in the Wellcome Library. The material is from the Subject Files section of the archive (SA/MIN). Early minute books from some of Mind’s predecessor bodies are also available. Mind began life as the National Association for Mental Health (NAMH) in 1946, but it owes its name to the Mind Appeal, a 1970s

fundraising campaign launched by David Ennals. One of the highlights of the archive is the original 1971 fundraising booklet. The focus is on the effect mental health issues can have on people of all ages. Grassroots services offered by Mind at the time such as playgroups, social clubs, and skills workshops could make a real difference but were in desperate need of funds. It is the campaign’s personal appeal that makes it so successful; the images of people look like anyone that a 1970s reader could know, a neighbour, a brother or a friend. As the campaign text urging donations says: “your family may be the next in need.”

Another area the archive touches on is ECT (electroconvulsive, formerly electroshock therapy). Over the years, Mind has worked tirelessly to ensure that patients have all the information they need to make an informed decision about whether ECT is right for them. The Royal College of Psychiatrists first published guidance on the use of ECT in 1977 and a typescript report from the archive shows that representatives from Mind visited two unnamed psychiatric hospitals at the time to find out how the practical administration of ECT compared with the formal guidance. The report aims to get as close as possible to the patient experience and this is why it is so compelling. Conditions in the waiting room and the patients’ feelings before and after the treatment are mentioned. In the first hospital the observer finds that the patients questioned were “prepared to have ECT, either because they had been helped by it previously, or because they would try anything to relieve their depression.” This communicates the reasons why ECT continues to be used today. The writer is able to make several observations on how treatments differ from official guidance. The experience of observation and conversation with patients enabled Mind to publish a Special Report for service users in the 1980s, *ECT Pros, Cons and Consequences*, giving a balanced overview of the treatment. The Mind archive is being catalogued in stages.

OTHER NEWS

A new journal of medieval studies, *The Medieval Globe*, edited by Carol Symes of the University of Illinois, has just been launched: www.arc-humanities.org/the-medieval-globe.html. As its name implies, the journal is dedicated to opening up connections between different aspects of the pre-modern world.

The journal's inaugural double issue is devoted to the topic of "Pandemic Disease in the Medieval World: Rethinking the Black Death." A central objective of the volume is to show how the new science of plague (particularly the new genetics) opens up an expanded view on the largest pandemic in human history, pushing us to expand our vision

of it geographically as well as chronologically. We are particularly concerned to explore how traditional humanistic historical methods can seize on the narratives proposed by evolutionary science and move from reconstructing the history of the single-celled pathogen to that of all the human relations that made this semi-global catastrophe possible. The entire issue is available open access, courtesy of funding from the World History Center at the University of Pittsburgh: scholarworks.wmich.edu/medieval_globe/1/.

Special virtual issue of *Medical History* now available online - 'From the Local to the Global: Fifty Years of Historical Research on Tuberculosis'. To access the collection for free please visit: journals.cambridge.org/mdh/tb.

Report of the Nominating Committee for 2015

The AAHM Nominating Committee is pleased to provide you with the slate for the AAHM Officers and Council-- for circulation in advance to the AAHM membership through the *NewsLetter* and for voting at the next Business Meeting on Saturday, May 2, 2015, at 5:30 pm in New Haven, CT.

Treasurer Hughes Evans (two-year term)

Secretary Jodi L. Koste (two-year term)

Council Members (three year terms beginning after the 2015 annual meeting)

Joel Braslow
Beth Linker
Paul A. Lombardo
Micaela Sullivan-Fowler

Respectfully submitted and with our gratitude to all the nominees for their willingness to continue to serve AAHM in this way.

Michael Flannery, Wendy Kline, and Jacalyn Duffin (Chair)

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