I write with an update regarding our plans for the May 2021 annual meeting and a review of AAHM’s brave new venture into the world of virtual gatherings. As you know, this year’s in-person conference had been scheduled for Madison, Wisconsin. As with so many other aspects of life today, the pandemic forced a change in plans. Now the annual meeting will be a vibrant online academic and social affair. An all-volunteer array of AAHM members (including our program committee, a pandemic planning committee, the AAHM council, secretary, and association leadership, and a remote arrangements committee) have been working tirelessly to ensure a successful meeting in this virtual space. We’re fortunate to have an extraordinary and dedicated membership to carry us through these difficult times.

In designing the virtual meeting, we have followed guidance from members. In a recent survey, eighty percent of you said that you plan to attend a remote meeting – a turnout that would surpass our usual in-person attendance. Many offered thoughtful suggestions about the kinds of online experiences, meeting structure, and networking opportunities you would find most engaging. Various AAHM committees have taken in those suggestions, brainstormed, and endorsed a meeting plan that will use a virtual conference organizer, OpenWater, to produce the event. The plan involves strong synchronous and asynchronous features – that is, opportunities to participate in live sessions and to view recorded presentations on one’s own schedule. We are planning not only for customary paper sessions and plenary sessions including Susan Lederer’s presidential address and the Garrison Lecture to be delivered by Evelynn Hammonds, but also for new social networking opportunities, interest group gatherings, book events and exhibits, and chances to gather for casual conversation with friends and colleagues. There will be other features, all just a click away. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

We are working with our vendor and meeting planners, as well as with the program and planning committees, to turn this ambitious plan into an easy-to-navigate and agreeable conference experience. There is much work ahead. Of course, there is no way to duplicate the in-person annual meeting. That cannot be our goal. Yet, the remote experience has many virtues, and we’re striving to maximize this platform to make the 2021 annual meeting an exciting, novel, and engaging get-together for all. AAHM made a brilliant early foray into this virtual space with thirteen excellent panels in the recently completed Ann Arbor 2.0 series, spanning from November 2020 to January 2021. Thanks once again to our member colleagues who hosted these stimulating panels via Rutgers, New Jersey Institute of Technology, University of Buffalo, Harvard, University of Michigan, the Consortium for History of
Science, Technology, and Medicine, Yale, McGill, Johns Hopkins, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University of California San Francisco, and University of Minnesota. Thanks also to the paper presenters, whose stellar talks spanned topics including epidemics, the architecture of health care, the politics of race and health, therapeutics, madness, poison, and much more. Average attendance across these sessions was 44, with one session attracting a high of 78 attendees.

Finally, a word of gratitude to our colleague librarians and archivists who quickly organized those marvelous, and quite difficult, quizzes before each panel – a challenge to our knowledge of the material culture of medicine and health. Congratulations to the quiz winner who is announced elsewhere in this newsletter.

As I’ve written before, missing a second annual meeting is difficult to contemplate. No online event can truly replace what has been lost. Yet, our association will continue to preserve and build our social and academic connections, using all available means in these challenging times. We are up to this challenge.

Living through pandemic times, our work has never been more vital. Our insights have never been more urgently needed. Our annual meeting – giving us opportunities to connect with friends, support young scholars, engage with new scholarship, refresh ties to the field, and build membership – is indispensable. Coming together in 2021 to share wisdom and insight about medicine’s past, present, and future has never been more important. I look forward to seeing you soon.

In the meantime, please continue sharing suggestions about the annual meeting or any other issues with the AAHM council and with me.

Keith Wailoo
AAHM President

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AAHM Officers
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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.
AAHM NEWS

Annual Meeting

Registration will open soon for the 2021 annual meeting which will be held virtually. We hope you will take this unique opportunity to participate and support your colleagues in the history of medicine. Please watch your email or visit the website to stay updated on annual meeting activities.

AAHM Ann Arbor 2.0

Thanks to all who help sponsor the 13 panels comprising the AAHM Ann Arbor 2.0 series. We particularly want to thank AAHM Council Member Arlene Shaner for her help in coordinating the medical object quizzes that accompanied each of the panels. Thanks also go to the many members of the Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences (LAMPHHS) who created quizzes based on the objects in their collections.

Congratulation to Matthew Edwards who correctly answer one of the quizzes and had his name drawn as the lucky winner of free registration to an upcoming annual meeting.

AAHM Nominations

The report of the AAHM Nominating Committee appears on page 10. Biographies for the nominated candidates appear below. The election will take place at the business meeting during the annual meeting in on Saturday, May 15.

Candidate for Treasurer:

Scott Podolsky received his undergraduate and M.D. degrees from Harvard. He has been a primary care physician and internist at Massachusetts General Hospital for over twenty years, and is a Professor of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Since 2006, he has served as the Director of the Center for the History of Medicine at the Countway Medical Library. His research has often focused on the history of therapeutics, and includes such works as Pneumonia before Antibiotics: Therapeutic Evolution and Evaluation in Twentieth-Century America (2006) and The Antibiotic Era: Reform, Resistance, and the Pursuit of a Rational Therapeutics (2015). He is presently working on a book-length examination of the linked histories of the medical journal and the medical profession in America. He joined the AAHM while a medical student in 1994, has served on council, and has served on numerous AAHM committees, including co-chairing (with Sarah Tracy) the Program Committee for the 2016 annual meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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 Health Sciences Library. 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 an 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 Librarians, Archivists and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences (LAMPHHS), 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:

Pablo F. Gómez, M.D., Ph.D., is an associate professor in the Department of Medical History and
Bioethics, and the Department of History at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He works on histories of knowledge-making, race, and health and corporeality with a particular focus on Latin America, the Caribbean, and more largely the African diaspora. His book *The Experiential Caribbean Creating Knowledge and Healing in the Early Modern Atlantic* (UNC press, 2017) won the William H. Welch medal in medical history, the Albert J. Raboteau Book Prize in Africana religion, and an Honorable Mention for the Bolton-Johnson Book Prize for best book in Latin American history. His co-edited book, *The Gray Zones of Medicine: Healers and History in Latin America*, is forthcoming with U. Pitt Press in the fall of 2021. Pablo has also published prize-winning articles, chapters, and reference pieces in multiple languages. He has been the recipient of, among others, a Davis Center Fellowship, a Mellon Foundation Sawyer seminar award, an ACLS-Early Career Fellowship, an ACLS-Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship, and three Major Project Grants for archival digitalization in Colombia from the Endangered Archives Programme-British Library. Pablo serves in several editorial boards in journals in the history of science and medicine. For the AAHM, (which he joined in 2009), he has served as chair of the 2019 AAHM meeting program committee and was part of the 2015 program committee. Pablo is chairing the 2020-21 AAHM Welch medal committee and was part of the 2014 Welch medal committee.

**Wangui Muigai** is assistant professor in the Department of History, Department of African and African American Studies, and Health: Science, Society, and Policy Program at Brandeis University. Her research examines the history of medicine, race, and reproduction. At Brandeis, she teaches courses on the history of medicine, childhood, health activism, and race and science. She is currently writing a book on black infant mortality in the U.S. from slavery to the present day. Muigai holds a Ph.D. in History of Science from Princeton University and A.B. in History and Science from Harvard University. She received the Jack D. Pressman Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Development Award (2020) and Shryock Medal (2017) from the American Association for the History of Medicine. She has served on the Garrison Lecture Committee (2019-2020) and is currently on the George Rosen Prize Committee for AAHM.

**Jacob Steere-Williams** is an Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of History at the College of Charleston. He holds a Ph.D. in the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine from the University of Minnesota. His teaching at the College of Charleston focuses on the history of public health, the global history of medicine, and the history of modern Britain. He has served as the Director of the Public Health major at the College of Charleston, and has helped to launch a Medical Humanities minor. In Charleston Jacob works closely with the Waring Historical Library, and he is the Vice President of the Library Society. Jacob’s research focuses on the history of infectious disease and public health in nineteenth and twentieth century Britain and across the former British Empire. In addition to articles published in venues such as *The Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*, *Social History of Medicine*, and *The American Journal of Public Health*, he is the author of *The Filth Disease: Typhoid Fever and Practices of Epidemiology in Victorian England* (University of Rochester Press, 2020). Jacob has been a member of the AAHM since 2005, and has served on a number of committees, including the George Rosen Prize and the Jack D. Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Prize, which he has been chair of for two years.

**Harry Yi-Jui Wu** is Director and Assistant Professor of Medical Ethics and Humanities Unit, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong. After completing his medical degree in Taiwan, he went on studying history in the U.K. He holds a DPhil in Modern History from The University of Oxford. For the past decade, he has taught at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore and The University of Hong Kong. His research mainly focuses on the transnational history of non-infectious diseases, such as mental disorders and those related to hazard exposure. His articles have appeared in *Medical History, History of Psychiatry, East Asian Journal of Science, Technology and Society*, Positions:
Asia Critique, History of Psychology, and The Lancet journals. He is the author of Mad by the Millions: Mental Disorders and the Early Years of the World Health Organization (MIT Press, 2021). In 2020, Harry was elected Early Career Fellow of Hong Kong Academy of Humanities. From July 2021, he will join the newly established Department of Medical Humanities and Social Medicine and the Cross-College Elite Program of National Cheng-Kung University, Taiwan.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Monica H. Green’s December 2020 essay, "The Four Black Deaths," published in the American Historical Review <academic.oup.com/ahr/article/125/5/1601/6040962>, was selected as "Article of the Month" for February 2021 by The Mediterranean Seminar. A notice of the citation can be found here: www.mediterraneanseminar.org/2021-february-article-of-the-month.

Nükhet Varlık, and Monica Green have recently been awarded one of the 17 research awards for COVID-19 Grants for History in the Public Interest www1.villanova.edu/villanova/artsci/lepage/resources/Covid19_awards/covid19.html

Warwick Anderson and M. Susan Lindee have co-edited a special issue of Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences (50, 5, 2020) on “Pacific Biologies: How Humans Become Genetic” to which they have contributed, along with Projit Bihari Mukharji, Soraya de Chadarevian, Joan M. Fujimura and Ramya M. Rajagopalan. Warwick and Susan discuss this collaboration in the UC Press blog (which includes a video): www.ucpress.edu/blog/53856/decolonizing-histories-of-genetics/


OBITUARIES

Thomas G. Benedek
(1926–2021)

Dr. Thomas G. (Tom) Benedek, who was the Chief of Rheumatology and Director of the Arthritis Clinic at the Oakland VA Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA for nearly 30 years, died on February 15, 2021. He also held the rank of Professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Tom was born in Leipzig, Germany and escaped Nazism in 1936 when he emigrated to Chicago with his parents, Dr. Tibor Benedek, a noted dermatologist, and Dr. Therese Benedek, who had worked closely with Sigmund Freud and his pioneering work in psychoanalysis, and his sister, Judy. His undergraduate education at the University of Chicago was interrupted by WWII, when he enlisted in the Navy and served in the Pacific. Noted as a keen photographer, he was responsible for taking some of the official photos of Japanese military officials signing the Documents of Surrender on his naval destroyer in 1945. Those photos are filed with the official US Military Historical Records of WWII.

After the war, Tom completed his undergraduate education at the University of Chicago and then entered and later graduated from the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the University of Illinois College of Medicine Chicago. Tom married his wife, Gladys, of 70 years in Chicago in 1950. After completing his internal medicine and rheumatology training, Tom moved with his wife and children to Pittsburgh, PA in 1956 for a position in the Oakland VA Hospital System, Pittsburgh.

Tom had several distinguished overlapping careers: patient care provider, researcher, and teacher, from
undergraduate students through medical residents. Together with Jonathon (John) Erlen, Ph.D., History of Medicine Librarian in the Health Sciences System, the University of Pittsburgh, he taught history of medicine courses to undergraduate Honors College students and a variety of graduate students at the University of Pittsburgh, beginning in the early 1980s. This team also taught and engaged in rigorous discussions with multiple small groups of fourth year medical students interested in the history of medicine for over 30 years in a fourth-year history of medicine elective sponsored by the Department of Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. For the last few years the outstanding medical student history of medicine paper was selected to receive the C. F. Reynolds History of Medicine Society award named for Tom at its Annual Awards banquet.

The extensive breadth of his scholarship in the history of medicine across both various time periods and subject areas is especially noteworthy. Tom’s publishing scholarship covering aspects of the changing relationship between midwives and physicians during the Renaissance up through several works on key medical ethical issues in the 20th century. His seminal piece on the Tuskegee syphilis experiments during the first half of the 20th century in the United States, that he co-authored with John Erlen, was published in Perspectives in Biology and Medicine in 1999. He also published numerous scientific articles in medical journals on the clinical aspects and the history of rheumatic and infectious diseases, with a specific focus on gout and scleroderma. He published six books, his most influential being Rheumatism: Its History from Paleopathology to the Advent of Experimental Science, Nova Scientific Publishers, 2015. He was the consummate scholar and was still pursuing this passion until two years prior to his death.

Tom was very active in various leadership roles for the American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) over the decades, serving as the Society’s President during 1994 and 1995 and on numerous AAHM committees throughout his medical career. He served as the head of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 1979 AAHM annual meeting held in Pittsburgh, PA. Tom also served as a key member of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 1995 AAHM annual meeting held on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh which drew over 800 attendees. He presented lectures at various national and international history of medicine conferences, sometimes taking Gladys and himself to the locations of major moments in the history of medicine. He also traveled to Prague soon after the USSR invaded in 1968, went into East Berlin to see the conditions during the communist occupation, and returned to Leipzig when a building honoring his mother’s research in psychoanalysis was dedicated.

In the Western Pennsylvania region Tom, working closely with his long-time colleague Gerald Rodman, M.D., created the current version of the C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society. This regional history of medicine society has and continues to provide high quality history of medicine programming for anyone interested in the broad scope of the history of medicine and health care, both locally and internationally. Selected lectures have extended this coverage to include historical aspects of the interface between medicine and literature and medicine and religion.

Perhaps Tom’s greatest professional accomplishment was when he was able to talk with students on a one to one basis outside the formal classroom setting. Working with our Honors College students he would meet with those who sought out his wisdom and expertise regarding their potential medical careers and what lay ahead for them in both medical school and then advanced medical education. With medical students Tom was able to take those interested to greater scientific depth on topics of the student’s specific interests. He also broached important practical issues these students would encounter entering their residencies which they would not have faced as medical students, such as the importance of research on their future
academic positions and the ongoing confusion over informed consent issues.

Dr. Benedek was a wonderful example to both students and colleagues on the value of combining a quality medical care with the study of the medical humanities. His long career will have a positive and lasting influence on the next generation of health care providers.

Jonathon Erlen, Ph.D.
University of Pittsburgh

Gert H. Brieger
(1932-2021)

It is with great sadness that I share the news of the passing of Gert Brieger, MD, MPH, PhD, a towering figure in our field who played a key part in building the history of medicine and technology here at Johns Hopkins and in the field in general. Gert’s role in the Department of the History of Medicine stretched from the early 1960s to the early 21st century. His career and his leadership bridged an older vision of the field oriented towards medical professionals with a newer vision oriented towards social and cultural history. Warm and open, generous with his time and his advice, Gert was a beloved figure in the Institute of the History of Medicine well after his retirement, and he is already greatly missed.

A formal announcement and celebration of Gert’s accomplishments will be made by the School of Medicine later this week, and I hope that many of you will have more details to share about Gert’s life, having known him longer and in different contexts. All the same I’d like to share a bit about Gert for those of you who might not have had the chance to meet him. I haven’t had much time to prepare a formal elegy, but I can vividly recall the day I first met Gert: when he interviewed me as an applicant he had never met before—to open up a wide-ranging conversation on the nature of medical practice as something that only made sense in historical and social context. I reflect back on that conversation as a crucial piece of how and why I became a historian myself. While I realize that this is my own personal debt to Gert, it nonetheless illustrates the kind of person he was—a patient listener and engaged human being who helped create time and space for critical reflection, and consistently found ways to enroll historical analysis as a vital tool in this process. He was able to speak the relevance of the history of medicine to a wide variety of audiences, and help many different sorts of learners think of history as something they, too, could use in their daily lives.

Gert Brieger was born in Hamburg, Germany, on January 5, 1932. His family emigrated to the United States when he was a child, settling in California. He studied medicine, public health, and history, receiving his MD in 1957 from the University of California, San Francisco, and his MPH in 1962 from the Harvard School of Public Health. In 1968, Brieger received the fourth doctoral degree ever awarded from our Department, under the mentorship of Owsei Temkin. His doctoral dissertation was a study of the history of American surgery, titled “Stephen Smith: Surgeon and Reformer,” the first of many influential works in the history of surgery, history of medical education and history of medical humanities. After serving on the faculty of the Institute from 1966 to 1970, Breger left to become the first professor of the History of Medicine at Duke University, where he helped establish a graduate program, leaving Duke to chair the program in History of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco from 1975 to 1984.

In 1984, he returned to Johns Hopkins to become the William H. Welch Professor and Director of the Institute of the History of Medicine. He swiftly made three bold hires that dramatically changed the face of the Institute—Daniel Todes, Harry Marks, and Mary Fissell—and set about building up the graduate program from an opportunistic and
piecemal program into a robust training program central to the life of the Department and the field of history of medicine, which his successor Randall Packard built upon after Gert stepped down in 2001. Gert served as the Editor in Chief of the Bulletin of the History of Medicine from 1985 until 2004, and played a vital role in heading the combined Department of the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology for roughly a decade as a conjoined department between the School of Medicine and the School of Arts and Sciences. On his retirement, he was recognized as a Johns Hopkins Distinguished Service Professor (Emeritus) and continued to play an active part in the life of the Department, such that when I joined the faculty in 2012 I could regularly stop by his office and find him available for a cup of coffee, a chat, and some advice. It is hard for me to accept that I can no longer do so, and I offer my condolences to the rest of you for this great loss.

Jeremy Greene
Johns Hopkins University

William G. Rothstein
(1937-2020)

William G. “Bill” Rothstein, long-time AAHM member, former AAHM Councilor, and a regular at AAHM annual meetings for decades, died December 5, 2020 following complications from a stroke. Bill was 83. He earned a BA from MIT, an MA from the University of Minnesota, and a PhD from Cornell. After two years as a research analyst at Prudential, he joined the first cohort of faculty members at the newly established University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1966. He remained a member of the Sociology Department at UMBC for the rest of his career, devoting himself wholeheartedly to the advancement of that campus and its students, even after his formal retirement in 2013. Heartfelt testimonies of appreciation from his former students have been extraordinary.

Bill wrote important books on several major aspects of medical history. The first, American Physicians in the Nineteenth Century: From Sects to Science, was published by Johns Hopkins University Press in 1972. In 1982, a poll of AAHM members placed American Physicians at the top of a list of books deemed to have "made the greatest contribution to our understanding of American medicine (broadly conceived)" over the previous ten years. Right through the present decade, American Physicians remains a widely read standard in the field. American Medical Schools and the Practice of Medicine: A History (Oxford University Press) was published in 1987, and Public Health and the Risk Factor: A History of an Uneven Medical Revolution (University of Rochester Press) appeared in 2003. He continued his research after retirement and wrote The Coronary Heart Disease Pandemic in the Twentieth Century: Emergence and Decline in Advanced Countries (CRC Press), which was published in 2018. He also wrote, or co-wrote with his graduate students, several influential articles on such subjects as specialization, pathology, intra-professional relations, and nursing.

Throughout his intellectual career, Bill delighted in playing the challenger’s role. In American Medical Schools, for example, he argued that economic, social, and political factors external to the actual practice of medicine drove many of the historical changes implemented by American medical educators. In Risk Factor he showed how the concept of statistical risk, while valuable in some medical areas, also produced a host of spurious correlations that both physicians and the medical industry took at face value. In Coronary Heart Disease, he pointed out that standard explanations for its rise and fall in the US, which stressed changes in dietary and behavioral patterns, overlooked the fact that coronary heart disease rose and fell at the same time in many other countries that did not experience those changes. But Bill will be remembered by AAHM members for his ability to play the challenger’s role in a generous and cheerful manner. His wit, good will, and humor guaranteed that his sessions were always well attended at the AAHM annual meetings. That wit, good will, and humor will be sorely missed by all those who knew him.

Jim Mohr
University of Oregon
ARCHIVES/LIBRARIES/MUSEUMS

The Eleanor Crowder Bjoring Center for Nursing Historical Inquiry at the University of Virginia is pleased to announce its new Director, Dominique Tobbell.

Dominique comes to us from the University of Minnesota, where she directed the Program in the History of Medicine, served as an associate professor, an oral historian for UMN’s Academic Health Center’s History Project, and an affiliate faculty at its Institute for Health Informatics. Prior to her work in the Twin Cities, she taught history courses at both the University of Pennsylvania and Drexel University.

Dominique’s scholarship focuses on the complex political, economic, and social relationships that developed after World War II between universities, governments, and the healthcare industry and that continue to impact modern-day systems. She has taught a variety of courses on the history of 20th century American healthcare and focuses on the ways nursing, race, gender, class, sexuality, and disability determine Americans’ experiences with and access to healthcare, work that will complement work already being done by the Bjoring Center.

In addition to a rich assortment of scholarly publications, Dominique is the author of two books: Pills, Power, and Policy: The Struggle for Drug Reform in Cold War America and its Consequences (University of California Press, 2012), and Health Informatics at Minnesota: The First Fifty Years (Tasora Books, 2015). She is currently at work on a third book—Dr. Nurse: Science, Politics, and the Transformation of American Nursing (already under contract with the University of Chicago Press)—which examines American nurses’ more expansive roles in the post-World War II era.

Barbra Mann Wall will retire at the end of May 2021. We are most grateful for the outstanding leadership Dr. Wall has provided to the Center during her tenure as its director.

The New York Academy of Medicine Library has just launched its newest digital collection, Recipes and Remedies: Manuscript Cookbooks: digitalcollections.nyam.org/islandora/object/digital%3Amsscookbooks

The collection contains full-text digital surrogates of eleven of our English-language manuscript receipt books dating from the late 17th to the mid-19th century. While the manuscripts contain mostly culinary recipes, there are also many recipes for home remedies, cosmetics, and for any number of useful household cleaning products. An essay by culinary historian Stephen Schmidt, who is also the principal researcher and writer for the Manuscript Cookbooks Survey, provides historical context for the manuscripts and helps us understand their relationship to contemporary printed cookbooks as well. A generous grant from the Pine Tree Foundation made the digitization possible, and an earlier grant from Pine Tree supported enhanced cataloging and conservation work on these and an additional twenty culinary manuscripts in a variety of different languages.

The Medical Historical Library at The Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library at Yale is pleased to announce the acquisition of the Stanley B. Burns M.D. Historic Medical Photography Collection, a collection of 15,400 photographs from 1839 to 1850 that documents the evolution of medicine and bears witness to untold human pain and loss.

The Stanley B. Burns M.D. Historic Medical Photography Collection includes images of physicians and medical scientists at work, operation rooms, hospital wards, laboratories, nurses and nursing, notable physicians, surgical specialties, and war medicine. There are also thousands of photos of patients and disease states. The collection is notable for its range of forms, including photo albums, framed photographs, publications, cartes de
visite (small photos mounted on cardboard), cabinet postcards, and personal collections assembled by noted physicians. Virtually every format is represented, including boxes of lantern slides and 253 unique daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, and tintypes from the earliest years of photography. The collection also includes a number of rare books with medical photography inside.

Along with the collection's move to Yale, Dr. Burns has endowed a library fellowship to support research in the collection and related holdings of the Medical Historical Library—a gift that aims to ensure scholars will continue to make discoveries in the collection.

The Burns Collection is being processed and evaluated for conservation and preservation needs; initial records are at archives.yale.edu/repositories/10/resources/11880. As time and resources allow, portions of the collection will be digitized and made available online.

The Royal College of Nursing Library and Archive has just launched Past Caring, a new podcast series about the history of nursing.

Each episode takes inspiration from RCN Library and Archive exhibitions exploring topics such as women’s health, myths about nursing, and learning disability nursing.

The first episode takes a timely look at the history of infectious diseases and what we can learn from past responses to “Spanish” flu, HIV and Ebola when tackling the COVID-19 pandemic. Guests including RCN lead for infection prevention and control Rose Gallagher, historian Mark Honigsbaum and artist Mary Beth Heffernan discussing pandemic responses, nursing on the frontline of HIV, and creative ways to humanize health care during a crisis.


Since the 1970s, economic concerns, concepts and tools have reconfigured and become central to the way global health is organized and managed. Often referred to as the economization of global health, this process—in which the World Bank played a key role—is hardly monolithic. It includes initiatives to problematize and restructure the financing of healthcare, from structural adjustment policies and attempts to reduce public health expenditures and encourage private forms of healthcare, to the identification of new funding mechanisms like user fees and the Global Fund. It also comprises efforts to rethink priority setting and resource allocation, from global burden of disease calculations to cost-benefit analyses and randomized controlled trials.

In addition to reflecting the World Bank's growing role in the funding of international and global health, World Development Report 1993 offered a quantitative method for selecting problem, intervention and research priorities, by quantifying the burden of different diseases and then subjecting these numbers to cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness analyses. Unlike earlier efforts of this sort that were unable to fully operationalize such analyses, WDR93 provided a single, standardized epidemiological measure, the DALY (Disability Adjusted Life Years), that incorporated mortality and disability data and was amenable to economic analysis over a broad range of health problems and interventions.

For this video as well as our other video forums, podcasts, and archival spotlights, please visit our Perspectives page at: www.chstm.org/perspectives.
New from the National Library of Medicine


The AAHM Nominating Committee is pleased to provide you with our slate for AAHM Officers and Council-- for circulation in advance to the AAHM membership through the *NewsLetter* and for voting at the next Business Meeting on 15 May 2021.

Treasurer: Scott Podolsky (two-year term)

Secretary: Jodi L. Koste (two-year term)

Council Members (three-year terms beginning after the 2020 annual meeting)

- Pablo F. Gómez
- Wangui Muigai
- Jacob Steere-Williams
- Harry Yi-Jui Wu

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

Jennifer Gunn, Dora Vargha, and David Herzberg (Chair)