PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

As historians of medicine, nursing, and public health, we see today’s coronavirus crises – the rising mortality, the politics of mask-wearing, the uncertainties over reopening – through the prism of the past. We instinctively reach into history for insight and guidance whether the questions are about social distancing, public health surveillance and disease screening practices, or vaccine development. As recently as 2014, AAHM President Margaret Humphreys wrote to our members amid another outbreak, observing that “this epidemic has brought questions once relegated to the past… into sharp contemporary relief.” That year the epidemic was Ebola – a recurring crisis confronting Western African nations, a new concern for anxious North Americans. With today’s sweeping COVID-19 crisis, the lessons of past pandemics become vital once again. As a result, historians of medicine, nursing, and public health have moved front and center in the public discussion not only about the past and how we got to this moment, but also about the wisest paths forward.

A few weeks ago, the American Historical Association began assembling the op-eds, essays, podcasts, conferences, and other writings of historians, to be published as bibliography to inform a richer public conversation about the pandemic. The response of AAHM members to the AHA request for writings was overwhelming. Over 200 examples of our members’ work flowed in; and we have kept at it, with essays covering topics from government and medical responses to the pandemic, to bias and xenophobia, to the impact of quarantines past and present. A draft version of the bibliography was recently made available at this dropbox link, but our partners at AHA ask us not to share it beyond AAHM membership because the bibliography is not complete. When the final document is posted in September, we will pass along the final product.

It has been inspiring to see our profession bringing its expertise to bear in shaping public understanding about the pandemic, and informing pandemic policies – while also expanding awareness of the field. Amid the frightful death toll, I’ve read many insightful analyses, commentaries, and chronicles – some of which I intend to use in my teaching. The pandemic has exposed multiple failures of public health, medical crises, and political fumbling; it has activated many false therapeutic hopes and it has emboldened mask skeptics; it reveals all too familiar social and political patterns. When COVID-19’s disparate social effects became visible – with its disproportionately high infection and mortality rates among Latino and Black populations, elderly nursing home residents, meatpacking plant workers, and prisoners – AAHM members have shed crucial light on the underlying reasons, and proposed solutions to these vexing challenges. Many of our members have also advance public understanding by writing as practitioners about their experiences on the “frontlines” of care.
The pandemic unfolds amid social unrest over racial injustice, police violence, and social protests over systemic racism; here too, AAHM members have provided brilliant commentaries about the intersections of racial injustice and the pandemic in America. With debates now surging about schooling this fall, with vaccine expectations running high, and with politicized skepticism about social distancing and mask-wearing practices still running at fever pitch, I look forward to reading more of your work in the months ahead setting the record straight on these topics. The future remains uncertain; none of us can know how this story will play out; but I do think that scholars in our field have already had an impressively positive effect on the quality of public understanding. We know better than most that the past can be a wise guide for what to expect next, how to prepare smartly, and how to plan ahead as the devastation shifts from the Northeast, to the South and Southwest and West, and most recently to the Midwest.

Implications of the pandemic for our 2021 annual meeting. Given so many uncertainties, the AAHM’s council must weigh how to proceed with our annual meeting, scheduled for Madison, Wisconsin, next May 13-16. In the next few weeks, we will meet to decide whether to move ahead with an in-person meeting or whether to plan for a remote annual meeting. Of course, we have no way of know whether the pandemic will be under control by then, whether large public gatherings will be allowed, whether travel restrictions will be lifted, or whether many in our members will be cautious and stay away from an in-person gathering. In our discussions, the members of the Madison Local Arrangements Committee and those serving on a Pandemic Planning Committee (constituted after the cancellation of the Ann Arbor meeting and comprised of former and current program committee co-chairs) all agree that moving our meeting online would be a disappointment. After all, we are still recovering from the cancellation of the 2020 Ann Arbor meeting. Moreover, going remote would also incur financial penalties for the
cancellation of hotel contracts. Of course, this may still be the safest move amid the uncertainty; and a remote meeting also brings opportunity to reimagine our scholarly community and to connect in new and exciting ways. If we move our annual meeting online, there would be new planning steps ahead. A final decision will be made later this month.

Fortunately, should be go remote we have a devoted corps of members that is ready to meet the challenge. We are fortunate to have a devoted Council, a Pandemic Planning Committee, and multiple committees that have provided input and guidance on these difficult questions in these challenging times. In addition, we have a talented Secretary in Jodi Koste. It should be said, however, that we are all volunteers in this effort to keep the organization running smoothly. We have no paid executive director and no paid staff. We do have, however, many devoted members who are always ready to assist. In the past month, many of you have responded positively and enthusiastically to requests to serve on our 20 or so committees. This as a sure sign of your deep devotion to the field, to the association, and to the questions of health and society that bring us together as scholars.

A Remote Arrangements Committee. If the Council moves forward with a remote 2021 meeting, planning poses significant hurdles. We may need to contract with a virtual conference organizer, a question that would be taken up by Council. A new Remote Arrangements Committee (comparable to the LAC) would need to be constituted to determine the scope and character of such a meeting. Also, the Pandemic Planning Committee has recommended that we sponsor some small online gatherings this fall and winter in order to provide scholars who were not able to present work in Ann Arbor with the opportunity to present work and receive feedback. A poll conducted by that committee suggested that 60 or so scholars who were scheduled for Ann Arbor were keen to have such an opportunity before May 2021. This effort would require planning, modest effort by an organizer, and volunteers (and likely some institutional support) to make it happen. We are keen to hear your thoughts, and even keener to hear from those willing to host or sponsor these Zoom panel discussions.

In pivoting to this new world of online AAHM activities, I’m reminded of something that AAHM president Nancy Tomes wrote in 2013 when she called upon us to embrace the “digital age” and become “part of the ‘new conversation’ in order to ensure that the AAHM… will flourish in the years to come.” The question back then seems quaint by comparison to today: in a phrase, Nancy was asking about social media (as in, to-tweet-or-not-to-tweet). Seven years later here we are, in the new world of daily Zoom meetings, global remote conferences, and a pandemic pushing us even more forcefully into the world of remote teaching and digital communications. Many of us have been organizing and attending conferences in this new environment, and forging new connections. I was pleased to contribute to this trend with the May 2020 two-day conference, “Pandemic, Creating a Usable Past: Epidemic History, COVID-19, and the Future of Health,” the panels of which can be viewed here. The challenge for 2020 and 2021 will be for us to use these technologies to keep this conversation going, to move our scholarship forward, and to continue to showcase the robust activities of our field.

Please share your suggestions and thoughts on these questions with the Council, and with me. We are also learning from other organizations – not just AHA mentioned above, but the History of Science Society which is moving its fall annual meeting online, and the British Society for the History of Science which recently held a five-day online Global Digital History of Science Festival that included traditional keynotes and panels, but also lightning talks, movie nights, and also a highly amusing and informative game-show type session in which contestants guessed the identity of obscure museum objects related to the history of science.

Sustaining the relevance and building the vitality of AAHM. For many of us, the prospect of missing another annual meeting is difficult to contemplate.
As another AAHM President, Chris Crenner, wrote in 2016 “the annual meeting is a place to see friends, recruit new colleagues, and perhaps finally track down that one person who is the expert on a topic consuming your thoughts over this last year. The meeting is also a place literally to start a career.” The goal for us as an association will be to find ways to preserve and build these connections even in these difficult times – to ensure that we can still connect with old friends, support young scholars, learn about new scholarship, refresh ties to the field, and build membership. I’m confident that we are up to the challenge.

I encourage you to send me and the Council members your thoughts on the road ahead, and any other suggestions for building the vitality of AAHM. In the months ahead, the Council will be meeting more frequently to guide us through these decisions. Although the challenges and uncertainty are great, our work has never been more necessary, our insights have never been more urgently needed, and our association has never been more vital.

Keith Wailoo
AAHM President

AAHM NEWS

Congratulations 2020 Award Winners!

Congratulations to the 2020 AAHM award winners announced at the Associations’ virtual business meeting on May 9, 2020.

William Osler Medal: Daniel Huang of Queens University School of Medicine for his paper, “Cyber Solace: Historicizing an Online Forum for Depression 1990-1999.”


Fielding H. Garrison Lecturer for 2021: Janet L. Golden, Professor Emerita Rutgers University

J. Worth Estes Prize: Sabrina Minuzzi for her article, “Quick to say Quack’ Medicinal Secrets from the Household to the Apothecary’s Shop in Eighteenth-century Venice,” in Social History of Medicine.

Jack D. Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Development Award in 20th Century History of Medicine or Biomedical Sciences Award: Dr. Wangui Muigai Assistant Professor at Brandeis University to support her Book Project, “Infant Death in the Black Experience”

George Rosen Prize: Guillaume Lachenal for his book The Lomidine Files: The Untold Story of a Medical Disaster published by Johns Hopkins University Press.


Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award: Theodore M. Brown

Congratulations to all our winners.
Call for Papers

The American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) invites abstracts for papers in any area of the history of health and healing for its 94th annual meeting, to be held in Madison, Wisconsin, 13-16 May, 2021. Recognizing that we are living in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, the AAHM is doing contingency planning. It is likely that at least part of the 2021 AAHM meeting will be held virtually because of health and safety concerns. The AAHM welcomes papers on the histories of medicine, disease, and health broadly defined, including the history of medical ideas, practices, institutions, technologies, or patients as well as the history of healing, disability, illness, disease, or public health. We are keen to include papers on both biomedical and non-biomedical therapeutic systems and traditions. The Program Committee, led by co-chairs, Leslie J. Reagan and Projit Bihari Mukharji, particularly encourages the submission of papers and panels that increase the methodological, thematic, chronological and geographical diversity of the histories of all forms of medicine. We welcome engagement with related fields (such as literary studies, anthropology, STS, LGBTQ+, gender and critical race studies etc.) and encourage submissions that engage with topics of contemporary political and public health immediacy.

The Program Committee seeks submissions in four categories:

Individual papers: All papers in this category should represent original scholarship not already published or in press. Speakers should expect to give a presentation of no more than twenty minutes followed by ten minutes of discussion.

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

Symposium/Lunch Workshops: Symposia and workshops address topics of broad interest, such as historiography, teaching, research methods, and advocacy, rather than original scholarship. These 75-minute sessions have a flexible format and may include a larger number of presenters (5-6), while also leaving ample space for discussion with the audience. A number of these symposia will be scheduled during lunch breaks. We are particularly interested in roundtables that engage with pressing scholarly or political issues, bring together different disciplinary or methodological backgrounds, address audiences, or use non-traditional formats.

Flash talks: Flash talks are concise presentations of developing and ongoing research meant to highlight the work of students. Flash talks last up to 5 minutes, and will be followed by discussion of up to 10 minutes.

New Media Formats: This category welcomes scholarly presentations under the following heads:-

Posters are well-suited to works that emphasize non-textual content. A limited number of them, representing original work not already published or in press, will be accepted for display in a designated area, with planned times for discussion during the meeting.

Podcasts: Short 5-10 minute pre-recorded audio presentations. This is a new format for AAHM and its exact form is evolving. We seek proposals for individual podcasts or from individuals who might produce a series of podcasts/interviews with selected scholars. Proposals should address content as well as podcast design and previous experience.
Film: These may be videos or other online material produced by the scholar her/him/themselves. Or one might propose a presentation of short films or film segments accompanied by discussion and analysis. The committee encourages imaginative proposals that explain both content and the proposed format. 5-15 minutes. Note that films (or a selection) may also be proposed as part of a luncheon/symposium.

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

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

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

**Abstracts must be submitted by midnight, Pacific Time (U.S.), 30 September, 2020.** No late submissions will be considered.

We would also urge all authors wishing to publish their papers to submit them for consideration to the Bulletin of the History of Medicine.

**Please note:** the program is subject to change since we do not know whether we will be able to meet in person due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The co-chairs and the AAHM will keep you apprised and appreciate your patience.

**Call for Nominations, AAHM Awards, 2021**

**Osler Medal Essay Contest, 2021.** The William Osler Medal is awarded annually for the best unpublished essay on a medical historical topic written by a student enrolled in a school of medicine or osteopathy in the United States or Canada. First awarded in 1942, the medal commemorates Sir William Osler, who stimulated an interest in the humanities among medical students and physicians.

All students who are candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathy, or are graduates of the class of 2020, are eligible. The essay must have been written while the entrant was a student in good standing. Students are not eligible to compete for the Osler Medal if they have completed at least one full year of graduate training in history, the history of science or medicine, or the humanities or social sciences by the closing date of the competition. Medical students who have been enrolled in a graduate program in history or a related discipline should submit their essays to the Shryock competition. No student should submit an essay to both competitions in the same year. Essays that have been awarded an Honorable Mention are not eligible for resubmission.

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

Complete contest information may be viewed on the [AAHM website](http://www.histmed.org) or obtained from the Osler Medal Committee Chair: Chris Crenner Ccrenner@kumc.edu. Entries must be postmarked or submitted...
electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) by **31 January 2021**.

**Shryock Medal Essay Contest, 2021.** Graduate students are invited to enter the Shryock Medal Essay Contest. The medal honors Richard Harrison Shryock (1893–1972), a pioneer among historians interested in the history of medicine. The award is given for an outstanding, unpublished essay by a single author on any topic in the history of medicine. The essay (maximum 12,000 words, including endnotes) must be the result of original research or show an unusual appreciation and understanding of problems in the history of medicine. In particular, the committee will judge essays on the quality of writing, appropriate use of sources, and ability to address themes of historical significance.

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

Complete contest information may be viewed on the **AAHM website** or obtained from the Shryock Medal Committee chair: Arleen Tuchman a.tuchman@vanderbilt.edu.

Essays must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) no later than **31 January 2021**.

**J. Worth Estes Award, 2021.** This award was established in honor of J. Worth Estes, M.D., in recognition of his many invaluable contributions to the American Association for the History of Medicine and to scholarship in the history of medicine. The award is made annually for the best published paper in the history of pharmacology during the previous two years, whether appearing in a journal or a book collection of papers. The choice of topic reflects Worth Estes’ long tenure as Professor of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics at Boston University and his own scholarship in the history of pharmacology.

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

While the committee will be monitoring relevant journals and books where such papers might appear, they welcome nominations of papers that would be eligible for consideration. The nomination should consist of a letter citing the work nominated along with a copy of the paper. For the current award, candidate papers will be those published in 2019 and 2020. Papers in languages other than English should be accompanied by a translation or detailed precis. Nominations should be directed to the Chair of the Committee, Dominique Tobbell at dtobbell@umn.edu and must be postmarked or submitted electronically via e-mail (which is the preferred method of submission) no later than **15 January 2021**.

**Jack D. Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Development Award in 20th Century History of Medicine or Biomedical Sciences, 2021.** This award honors Jack D. Pressman, Ph.D., a distinguished historian of medicine and Associate Professor of the History of the Health Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco at the time of his early and unexpected death in June 1997. The award and stipend of $1,000 is given yearly for outstanding work in twentieth-century history of medicine or medical biomedical sciences, as demonstrated by the completion of the Ph.D. and a proposal to turn the dissertation into a publishable
monograph. The Ph.D. must have been completed and the degree granted within the last five years (i.e., 2016–2020). The application must include a curriculum vitae, the dissertation abstract, a one-page summary of the proposed book; a description (not exceeding two pages) of the work to be undertaken for publication; and two letters of support from faculty members knowledgeable about the applicant’s dissertation.

Each application for the Pressman Award is evaluated for overall excellence, originality of the proposed project, the historiographic contribution of the project, the feasibility of the project plan and the potential impact of the project on the career trajectory of the applicant.

The application, including all supporting materials, must be submitted by 31 December 2020. Submissions and/or questions should be directed to the Chair of the Pressman–Burroughs Wellcome Committee, Jacob Steere-Williams steerewilliamsj@cofc.edu. More information may be obtained from the AAHM website or from the committee chair.

Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award, 2021. The American Association for the History of Medicine established the lifetime achievement award in 1988; the first recipients were Saul Jarcho, Lester King, and Owsei Temkin. The award was named for Genevieve Miller in 2014 to honor of her contributions to the history of medicine and the Association. The award is given annually to a member of the Association who has retired from regular institutional affiliation or practice, with a distinguished record of support for the history of medicine over many years, and who has made continuing scholarly contributions of a distinguished nature. Robert Aronowitz, chair of the Genevieve Miller Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, welcomes nominations for the award, at the following e-mail address: aronowitz@wharton.upenn.edu. Nominations for this award should include at least one letter of nomination outlining the nominee’s continuing contributions to the field and a curriculum vitae or other biographical information. Deadline for nominations: 31 October 2020. Electronic submissions are preferred.

The George Rosen Prize, 2021. The George Rosen Prize is awarded in odd years to one or more authors/creators of an article, essay, edited volume, museum exhibition, film, or other significant contribution to the history of public health or the history of social medicine published or created in the five calendar years preceding the award’s nomination deadline, i.e. from 2014 to 2019. “Social medicine” here refers to historical efforts to heal, relieve, or prevent diseases arising inherently from social circumstances and is intended to be distinct from the “social history of medicine.” In this context, “social” refers to the perspective of the historical actors and not to the perspective or methods of the historian.

The award is named in honor of George Rosen, physician, public health administrator, past-president of the AAHM, and a major contributor to the history of social medicine. The AAHM Council established the award in 2014 thanks to the generosity of the Susan Rosen Koslow. Further information is available at www.histmed.org/about/awards. The chair of the 2020-2021 Rosen Prize Committee, Charlotte Borst, welcomes suggestions of articles, films or other significant scholarly endeavors to consider for the award that are not singly or jointly authored historical monographs (these will be eligible for the Rosen Prize next year). Publishers nominating an edited volume must send a copy to each member of the committee.

To nominate books and to obtain mailing addresses of all committee members, contact Charlotte Borst, Chair of the George Rosen Prize Committee, at charlotte.borst@gmail.com. Deadline for submissions: 31 October 2020.

The William H. Welch Medal, 2021. The William H. Welch Award is awarded to one or more authors of a book (excluding edited volumes) of outstanding scholarly merit in the field of medical history published during the five calendar years preceding
the award. Hence, books published during 2015–2019 inclusively will be eligible for the Medal.

The award is named in honor of a major American figure in the history of medicine and public health, who was also one of the first faculty members at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. The Medal was first presented in 1950 to Henry Sigerist. A list of subsequently awarded authors and their scholarship can be found on the Association’s website.

Previous Welch Medal winners are ineligible. The chair of the 2020-2021 Welch Medal Committee, Pablo Gómez welcomes suggestions of books to consider for the award. Publishers nominating a book must send a copy to each member of the committee. To nominate a book and to obtain mailing addresses of all committee members, contact via phone or e-mail: Pablo Gómez, 1300 University Ave. Room 1419, Madison, WI, 53706; pgomez@wisc.edu. Deadline for nominations: 31 October 2020. Previously nominated eligible books must be re-nominated; they will not be considered automatically.

AAHM Committees 2020-21

Council:

Class of 2023
Jessica Martucci
Rebecca Kluchin
Kavitha Simaramakrishnan
Rana Hogarth

Program Committee:
Leslie Reagan, co-chair
Projit Mukharji, co-chair
Saniya Ghanoui
Shireen Hamza
Sean Hsiang-lin Lei
Rana Hogarth
Lauren Kassell
Luke Messac
Michelle Moran
Mike Rembis
Dora Vargha
David Wright

Finance Committee
Scott Podolsky, chair (2021)
Beatrix Hoffman(2022)
Gwen Kay (2023)

Nominating Committee
David Herzberg, chair
Jennifer Gunn
Deirdre Cooper Owens

Shryock Medal Committee
Arleen Tuchman, chair
Sean Quinlan
Alisha Rankin
Martin Summers

Osler Medal Committee
Chris Crenner, chair
Claire Clark
Laura Hirshbein

Pressman Burroughs-Welcome Award Committee
Jacob Steere-Williams, chair (2021)
Jessica Martucci (2022)
Stephen Pemberton (2023)
Miller Lifetime Achievement Award Committee
   Robbie Aronowitz, chair
   Rima Apple
   Stephen Greenberg

Rosen Prize Committee
   Charlotte Borst, chair
   Ellen More
   Wangui Muigai
   Susan Speaker
   Christian Warren

Welch Medal Committee
   Pablo Gomez, chair
   Andrew Simpson
   Alexandra Minna Stern
   Gregg Mitman
   Elizabeth Watkins

Garrison Lecture Committee
   David Courtwright, chair
   Mical Raz
   Sam Roberts
   Deborah Levine
   Anne Pollock

Estes Prize Committee
   Dominique Tobbell, chair
   John Swann
   Jason Schwartz

Annual Meetings
   Russell Johnson (chair 2023) (tentative yes)
   Debbie Doroshow (2021)
   Andrew Ruis (2022)
   Stephen Greenberg (2022)
   Sydney Halpern (2023)
   Todd Olszewski (2023)

Publications
   Chrstine Ruggere, chair (2022)
   Paul Berman (2024)
   Rick Keller (2026)

Education and Outreach
   Claire Clark, chair (2022)

Jacqueline Antonovich (2022)
   Antoine Johnson (2022)
   Kelly Jones (2022)
   Naomi Redina (2022)
   Aelwen Wetherby (2021)
   Christopher Willoughby (2022)
   Adam Biggs (2023)
   Mindy Schwartz (2023)

Diversity and Inclusion
   Lisa Pruitt, chair (2021)
   Jaipreet Virdi (2023)
   Ahmed Ragab (2022)
   Hilary Aquino (2021)
   Rick Mizelle (2023)
   Kirby Randolph (2022)

Development
   Margaret Marsh, chair
   Dale Smith
   Charlotte Borst
   Alan Kraut

Committee on Student Affairs
   Walt Schalick, faculty advisor
   Antoine Johnson

Travel Grant Committee
   Lisa Bob, chair (2022)
   Greg Higby (2022)
   Elizabeth Neswald (2023)


In early May 2020, this two-day webinar conference brought together leading historians of health and society in discussions exploring the powerful echoes of past epidemics in the present crisis—from the sudden tragic loss of life to the extensive social and economic fallout, from tensions over the halting of commerce to the flourishing of dubious theories and medicines, and concluding with possibilities of social and public health reinvention as well as worrisome pandemic legacies. The webinars drew over 3,800
attendees from 49 countries. Sessions examined epidemics and urban centers, historians and health care practitioners reflecting on their experiences on the front lines of care, civil liberties and public health politics, how crises spur new therapies as well as dubious theories and new surveillance practices, the challenge of reinventing public health after epidemics, and the implications of pandemics for the future of health. Recordings of the webinar sessions are available on the AAHM website. The conference was organized by Keith Wailoo, supported by staff and graduate students in History at Princeton, and co-sponsored by the AAHM.

NEWS OF MEMBERS


Arleen Tuchman announced the release of her new book Diabetes: A History of Race & Disease from Yale University Press.

OBITUARIES

James Tait Goodrich (1946-2020)

 Pediatric neurosurgeon and bibliophile-bookseller James Tait “Jim” Goodrich died on March 30, 2020, one of the first physicians in the United States to succumb to Covid-19. He was the long-time chief of pediatric neurosurgery at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx and a professor at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Jim was born in Portland, Oregon, on April 16, 1946 to Gail Josselyn Goodrich and Richard A. Goodrich. When he was a medical student, the American Association for the History of Medicine awarded him the Osler medal for his manuscript “Sixteenth Century Anatomy and Andreas Vesalius: The Contribution of Renaissance Art to Modern Anatomical Studies.” Seven years later, the bimonthly W. B. Saunders journal Medical Heritage published this paper.

Jim’s academic standing as a high school senior (GPA of 1.62) gave no hint of his eventual success and international impact as a pediatric neurosurgeon.

After serving with the Marines in Viet Nam, Jim entered Orange Coast College, where he attended a life-changing lecture on learning and memory by University of California Irvine neurobiology professor James L. McGaugh. Jim recalled in 2018, “Professor McGaugh contributed to my growth and success in so many ways. Because of him, I was able to get into a great medical school and continue a wonderful academic career. His influence is still with me over four decades later.” news.uci.edu/giving/2018/02/23/a-lasting-impression/

Upon learning of Jim’s death, McGaugh said, “He was an undergraduate research student in my lab and, later, a close friend. He was an inspiring person who came from a humble background and worked his way up from community college to UCI and became one of the world’s leading pediatric neurosurgeons.” www.bio.uci.edu/in-memorium-dr-james-t-goodrich/

Jim married Judy Loudin, a dental hygienist, in 1970. She would be a vital part of his life for the next half century. Jim received an Associate of Arts degree from Orange Coast College in 1972 and a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Irvine in 1974. After receiving MD and PhD degrees from Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons, he completed a neurosurgical residency at Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital and the New York Neurological Institute.

In 1983 Jim published an article “Medical Bibliophily Revisited” in Off Hours, a magazine that styled itself as a physician’s guide to leisure. His paper opened, “In these days of high-technology medicine, physicians are increasingly turning to outside interests that reflect the humanistic roots of their profession.” After sharing insights into the dynamics of medical book collecting, Jim closed his article, “The fact that many of today’s collectors are young physicians gives added hope that the scholarly
traditions of the past will not be lost.” PubMed lists 104 articles that Jim authored or coauthored between 1976 and 2019. One quarter of his publications deal with the history of medicine, and many of these relate to various aspects of the history of neurosurgery.

Jim achieved world-wide fame in 2004, when he led a large Montefiore Hospital surgical team that separated Carl and Clarence Aguirre, twins who were joined at the head. Sanjay Gupta, a neurosurgeon and CNN’s chief medical correspondent, published a tribute to Jim the day after he died. It began, “Most will remember Dr. James T. Goodrich as a recognized giant of neurosurgery, the most experienced neurosurgeon in the world when it came to the delicate and daunting separation of craniopagus twins, those conjoined at the head.” Gupta recalled watching Jim and his team throughout the 27-hour operation to separate craniopagus twins Jadon and Anias McDonald in 2016. The on-line version of Gupta’s piece included excerpts from an interview he did that year. Jim’s impact on neurosurgery and on the lives of countless patients and their families is evident in the virtual memorial service, which can be watched at Jim’s Facebook page. The video includes dozens of photographs of Jim in a wide variety of settings and comments by several friends and colleagues. This moving tribute has been viewed more than 8,000 times and has generated hundreds of comments.

W. Bruce Fye

Deborah Kuhn McGregor (1944-2020)

Deborah Kuhn McGregor, died Saturday, March 14, 2020 of complications from Parkinson's Disease. Born in South Hadley, Massachusetts in 1944, the fourth child of Manfred and Agnes (Reagan) Kuhn, Deborah grew up in Iowa City, Iowa, where her father served as chair of the University of Iowa's Sociology Department. She was, by her own description, a ‘faculty brat.” Leaving home in 1962, Deborah attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison, achieving a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in History by 1968, beginning work on a Doctorate. Politically active during the period, she participated in Freedom Summer, working to register black citizens to vote in North Carolina, where she was shot at by the Ku Klux Klan.

Moving across country to Binghamton, New York in 1980, Deborah was welcomed and treated with great respect as a graduate of the University of Wisconsin. Her doctoral research centered on the "father of gynecology,” J. Marion Sims, a Southern physician who experimented on slave women. In 1985, she received her Ph.D. just in time to accept a one-year teaching position at the University of Utah. The following year she and her family moved to Chatham, Illinois, where her husband took up a tenure-track position at what became the University of Illinois-Springfield. Working part time at this institution and at the Southern Illinois School of Medicine, Deborah marked time before gaining her own tenure-track position at UIS beginning in 1990. There she taught Women's History, the History of Medicine, Nineteenth Century American History, and methods courses in Public History. Tenured in 1996, she won promotion to Associate Professor and ultimately Full Professor, crowning a career of superlative academic achievement. Her research bore fruit in the 1998 publication of From Midwives to Medicine: The Birth of American Gynecology, a highly influential study of ethical questions surrounding the origins of the medical practice, reflecting her ongoing commitment to feminism and a humanistic outlook. Much loved and respected by her students, Deborah retired from teaching in 2010, moving to upstate New York upon the retirement of her husband two years later. There she continued academic research while devoting considerable time to her favored hobbies, knitting and sewing.

ARCHIVES/LIBRARIES/MUSEUMS

In 1978, Horizon Hospice became Chicago’s first hospice when it admitted its first patient. Just a decade later, Horizon was serving 109 patients annually by the time the HIV/AIDS crisis was taking its toll, and it continued growing to about 2,000 patients by 2013, regardless of their ability to pay. In
2015, it merged with two suburban hospices to form Journey Care Hospice and Palliative Care. To celebrate the role Horizon Hospice played in the city and to share its history with researchers, officials have donated its archives to the University of Illinois at Chicago, which will house them in the Library of the Health Sciences-Chicago Special Collections and University Archives.

The Horizon Hospice records include 28 linear feet of organizational and operating records, annual reports, correspondence, photographs and demographic information, said Keller Young. She said the collection will be helpful to students, staff and non-UIC researchers with an interest in the history of palliative and hospice care in Chicago. In addition, a large portion of fundraising correspondence is available, which would be of interest to people looking into nonprofit philanthropy.

In 1937, Dr. Abraham A. Low, a neuropsychiatrist with the Psychiatric Institute at the University of Illinois, worked with his patients to form the organization now known as Recovery International, or RI, to help patients reintegrate into the community following hospitalization. He developed techniques of self-help to augment outpatient treatments by professionals. Eventually, Dr. Low’s lectures and practices evolved into the Recovery International Method, a rigorous cognitive-behavioral training and meeting standard, including readings, four-step examples and “spotting” techniques. Recovery meetings are peer-led by trained volunteer leaders who have experienced and benefited from the RI Method themselves. Recovery International, the 80-year-old nonprofit organization focused on mental health, has donated early organizational records and the personal papers of its founder, Dr. Low, to the University of Illinois at Chicago’s Special Collections and University Archives.

Among the records are nearly complete sets of newsletters and other publications, including books, pamphlets and brochures. The records also include transcriptions of taped interviews with Dr. Low done shortly before his death, unpublished manuscripts, and Dr. Low’s correspondence with his wife, Mae, key leaders, and others. Dr. Low was born in Poland, educated in Vienna and was a practicing psychiatrist in New York prior to coming to Chicago. The records include his diploma, medical license, personal journals, and other ephemera. Of special interest are his lectures and writings that constitute pioneering work in cognitive-behavioral therapy and methodology of peer-led support groups.

The Center for the History of Family Medicine (CHFM) has received a donation of three manuscripts from Nikitas J. Zervanos, MD. The manuscripts focus on the history of family medicine and Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health’s Family Practice Residency Program in Lancaster, PA, one of the first approved family medicine programs in the United States. Dr. Zervanos was the founding director. “The manuscripts from Dr. Zervanos represent 50 years of focused education regarding the family physician,” said Phyl Naragon, deputy executive director, American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation. “We are thrilled he has donated the manuscripts to the Center, where family physicians, residents, students, historians, scholars, and educators will have access to them for years to come.”

The Maria Manuscript (MS408) Plant Series Papers 9 & 10 are now available, along with a Lexicon of the words from papers 1 - 10. The language is Iberian Vernacular Latin, closest to Portuguese, Galician and Catalan. The manuscript is essentially a compendium of Medieval herbal medicines, as prescribed by the “Doctrine of Signatures.” The papers are available here:

ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/005269
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Enjoy, and please feel free to disseminate far and wide.
New from the National Library of Medicine

The National Library of Medicine Web Collecting and Archiving Working Group continues to identify and select web and social media content documenting the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak as part of NLM's Global Health Events web archive collection. Now including 2,500+ URLs (450+ gigabytes), the collection includes federal, state, and local government COVID-19 pages, websites of disaster relief agencies and NGOs, and content documenting life in quarantine, prevention measures, the experiences of healthcare workers, patients, and more. The group is actively reviewing recommended content for inclusion in the archive (3,800+ URLs to date), scoping and running crawls of content using Archive-It and Conifer (formerly Webrecorder), reviewing archived sites for quality, and adding metadata.

The group also continues to engage with other cultural heritage organizations archiving the history of COVID-19, including the groups being convened regularly by the leadership of the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, and by federal agencies who are coordinating their collecting initiatives. Moreover, the group continues to engage with the Society of American Archivist Web Archiving Roundtable, the Archive-It community, and the National Digital Stewardship Alliance. Moreover, and the Documenting the Now project. Nominations for content to include in NLM's Global Health Events collection remain welcome via nlmwebcollecting@nlm.nih.gov.

NLM also continues to participate as an institutional contributor to a broader International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC) Novel Coronavirus outbreak web archive collection. IIPC registered their Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) collection in the World Pandemic Research Network, You may view the project description here. Individual recommendations for the IIPC collection can be submitted using the form available here.

NLM is honored to announce its acquisition of the papers of Louis W. Sullivan, MD, former United States Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS). This is the first collection of papers from a former HHS Secretary acquired by the NLM and will be part of the archival collections of the world's largest medical library and institute of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Louis W. Sullivan is an African American physician who served as secretary of HHS from 1989-1993 and as dean and president of Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) from 1975-1989 and from 1993-2002. The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities at NIH was first established as an Office under the NIH Director through Secretary Sullivan in 1990 and was elevated to an Institute in 2010.

The Louis W. Sullivan Papers consist of Dr. Sullivan’s HHS chronological correspondence, action/briefing files, daily calendars, speeches, news clippings, White House memorabilia, event photographs, and honorary degrees and awards. The collection documents Secretary Sullivan’s efforts to educate the public on the dangers of tobacco use, including stopping the introduction of Uptown, a cigarette designed for marketing to minority communities; introduce new and improved food labels; initiate a $100 million minority male health and injury prevention initiative; and increase the National Institutes of Health budget over $5 billion.

Growing the corpus of recently-released fully-digitized manuscript collections in NLM Digital Collections, the papers of Charles Glenn King are now available via this resource, and the finding aid for the collection now includes links to the digitized content. The papers were digitized as part of a collaboration with our colleagues at University of California, San Francisco. Using grant funds, the UCSF Industry Documents Library digitized the collection and created metadata for inclusion in their online archive of documents related to the sugar industry and kindly provided NLM a copy of the digitized content and metadata at no cost to NLM.