The Gazette

Big push for midwifery history
Cover Stars: Midwife teaching at antenatal class c1940 with a mother and baby (how festive!) (RCM/PH7/2), RCM Archive @ RCOG. Copyright of the Royal College of Midwives. See p. 34.

Contents

SSHM Sponsored Events:
(i) Meeting reports
(ii) Calls for Papers
Other Meeting Reports
Other Calls for papers
Calls for Articles/Chapters
Conference Notices
Symposium/Workshop/
Seminar Notices
News from HOM Centres
Awards/Grants/F'ships
Library, Digital Resources
& Archive News
Websites
Exhibitions
Events

Correspondence should be sent to:
Dr Andrew Hull, Department of Inter-Professional Studies, Centre for Philosophy, History and Law in Healthcare, College of Human and Health Sciences, Swansea University, Singleton Park Campus, Swansea SA2 8PP

Email gazette@sshm.org
web http://www.sshm.org
FROM THE EDITOR

It is an all change time of the year, and as we prepare for the Festive Season and the New Year, so we say goodbye and thank you to our previous Society Chair Dr Lutz Sauerteig.

Lutz leaves the Society in an excellent position, with strong finances, and with outstanding new teams in place at the prestigious book series (now well underway and with many mouth-watering titles in the pipe-line) and at the journal – about to be extended (as is the Gazette*) to four issues per year – 900 pages plus of top scholarship and reviews. What a fine Christmas present for the loved-one in your life!

Lutz has left a lasting legacy for the new Chair – Dr. Gayle Davis – to build on, and we welcome her and look forward to the New Year and our London 2012! Happy holidays everyone (not quite yet, but soon!).

*From 2012, new deadlines for submission of Gazette copy to gazette@sshm.org will be: 16 January, 16 April, 16 July and 15 October.

Andrew Hull
Swansea University

SSHM-SPONSORED EVENTS I: CONFERENCE REPORTS

Body and Mind in the History of Medicine and Health
EAHMH 2011 Bi-Annual Conference Utrecht
1-4 September 2011

For its bi-annual conference, the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health (EAHMH) hosted a fun and thought-provoking event in Utrecht. The conference, on the theme of ‘body and mind’, fittingly kicked off with a reception at Utrecht University’s historic Senate Hall. Conference delegates were given a warm welcome by the Deputy Mayor of Utrecht, the Director of the Descartes Centre for the History and Philosophy of Science and the President of the EAHMH. This enjoyable evening set the tone for the rest of the four-day event, which succeeded in being both relaxed and stimulating throughout.

‘Body and Mind in the History of Medicine and Health’ attracted a wide range of international scholars, from as far as Brazil and New Zealand, demonstrating that the EAHMH’s appeal and scope is not purely European. This range of delegates established a fertile ground for debate and comparative research, thereby successfully combining the local and the global approaches to medical history. The four keynote speakers gave varied and engaging presentations. Professor H. Floris Cohen opened the conference with a fitting talk on Descartes, Professor Jacalyn Duffin developed a key debate of the first day of proceedings by discussing the uses of medical history in the medical curriculum, and Professor
Annemarie Mol drew on her background in philosophy to consider the range of ways in which bodies and illnesses are represented. The final keynote speech, by Professor Roger Smith on the subject of body/mind dualism, is worthy of particular note for the Gazette as it was sponsored by the SSHM. The EAHMH will, in turn, sponsor a keynote speaker at SSHM’s biannual conference in London next year.

Lutz S and Roger S.

Although the theme of body/mind was interpreted in a range of ways throughout the conference, some key themes repeatedly arose during discussions. One prominent theme, covered by keynote speaker Jacalyn Duffin and several panels, was methods and historiography in the history of medicine. Papers not only discussed research in the history of medicine, but also the challenges and rewards of teaching medical history to students with diverse academic backgrounds.

Interdisciplinarity was another theme of several conference papers and panels, as anthropologists, sociologists, and doctors added their contemporary perspectives on disease discourses and policies. One such paper was presented by the interdisciplinary research team of Kirtsen Beukenkamp, Sylvain Ferez, and Jacques Dumont, who compare reactions to leprosy and HIV/AIDS in the French West Indies, using anthropological techniques to search for continuities in ideas about stigma, visibility, and disease origins and causation. Sociologist Bill Leeming also contributed a discussion of patients’ experiences of biomedicine and perceptions of the future as they undergo counselling for genetic disease risks.

The relationship between the body and the perception of mental illness was also a popular theme of discussion. A wide range of papers discussed the European construction of mental illness in the colonial world, including a perceived link between prostitution and insanity in Australia; the ‘Tangiers fever’, or insanity, unique to the bodies and minds of Europeans living in Algeria; and the madness perceived in Muslims of the colonial Maghreb, from the excessive consumption of coffee and tea and the under-consumption of religious fasting. Other papers brought the discussion of the body and mental illness back to Europe, for example a student presentation on the relationship between fasting and depression in early modern England.

Two intertwined themes present in many of the conference panels were the relationship between visibility and disease perception, and the power of fear in shaping attitudes towards disease. A panel on attitudes towards leprosy from the Middle Ages to the present discussed the relationship between appearance, normality, and stigma and demonstrated that in some cases, a disfigured appearance did not warrant the revulsion stereotypically associated with leprosy. In medieval France, attitudes towards leprosy sufferers were based not on appearance, but on the social identity of the individual before leprosy became apparent. In twentieth-century Uganda, leprosy sufferers were stigmatised only when they became so disabled they could not provide for themselves. In a panel on body, soul, and mind in early modern Europe, the presenters pointed out the ways that physical appearance could have implications for the perception of character, whether in the case of predicting criminality or in explaining monstrosity.

Self-defence and fear of disease were discussed extensively in a panel on ‘Defending the Body from Within’. One paper examined the growth of myths around ‘Patient Zero’ as the deliberator originator of the American HIV/AIDS epidemic, while another explored the motivations for the widespread American campaign against polio in the twentieth century. A third paper discussed the relationship between food allergies and mental health in the twentieth century, analysing the role of perception to the
diagnosis of allergies. Further back in time, a paper on colonial Hong Kong discussed the criminalisation of leprosy, and the deportation of leprosy patients from the British island to mainland China in the name of self-preservation. A paper on leprosy in early modern Germany explored the link between perceptions of leprosy and poverty, highlighting the public inspection process to which suspected leprosy sufferers were subject in the name of public safety.

The social aspects of this excellent conference are particularly worthy of note, helped by an amiable crowd and an unexpectedly sunny weekend in the Netherlands. On the first full day of proceedings, a small group of delegates travelled to Leiden to explore its fascinating Boerhaave museum (the Dutch national museum for the history of science and medicine, founded in 1929). They were treated to an entertaining historical performance in the reconstructed anatomy theatre by Professor Andrew Cunningham, an expert on the history of anatomy and author of *The Anatomist Anatomis’d*. The second day of the conference included a canal tour of the city and its outskirts. This tour was ideally accompanied by sunshine, drinks and historical information about Utrecht and its surroundings. The day was rounded off with a convivial conference dinner, including a menu that was designed to embrace the exceptionally international nature of the conference.

On the final day of the conference, the EAHMH held its Annual General Meeting and presented two generous awards. The first was the Pieter van Foreest Student award, sponsored by the Dutch foundation *Stichting Historia Medicinae*, of 500€ for the best student paper presented at the EAHMH conference. The award was deservedly given to Magnus Vollset of the University of Bergen for his excellent paper on ‘Medical Models of Leprosy, Policies and “The Leper Mind”’. Vollset’s paper on the role of the mind in the treatment and control of leprosy is part of his larger doctoral research on the growth and transfer of knowledge and ideas about leprosy internationally. Victoria Bates also received an honourable mention for her paper on “Early ripe, Early Rotten’: The Body and Mind in Precocious and Delayed Sexual Development, 1850-1914”.

The EAHMH Book Award for 2011, a prize of 3000€, was sponsored by Dutch *Stichting Historia Medicinae* and the German Robert Bosch Stiftung. The worthy winner was Ilana Löwy for *Preventive Strikes: Women, Precancer, and Prophylactic Surgery*. Löwy’s book provides a striking transnational examination of the role of culture in the formulation and recommendation of radical preventative cancer treatments for women.

The conference closed with the election of the EAHMH’s new Scientific Board. Current EAHMH president, Frank Huisman, passed his duties on to Laurinda Abreu, who will be organising the next bi-annual EAHMH conference in Portugal in 2013. If it is as well organised and sociable as the Utrecht event, we suggest that you do not miss the chance to go.
Poetry and Melancholia
University of Stirling
7-9 July 2011

Reports from SSHM Bursary Recipients

The three-day conference Poetry and Melancholia - also sponsored by the Society for the Social History of Medicine - was organised by Dr David Miller from the Department of English Studies at the University of Stirling and Dr Kyriaki Hadjiasxendi from the Department of English at the University of Exeter. This interdisciplinary conference was held in the intimate and relaxing surroundings of Pathfoot Building at University of Stirling from 7-9 July 2011 and it sought to explore the nature and representation of melancholia within poetry and its relationship to poetics and poetic creation from the Renaissance to the present. Since ancient times, the poet from is an ambivalent figure crossed by wisdom and madness, but his figure is above all inextricably linked to controversial concept of Melancholia, which has accompanied the poet like a female spectre, thin and pale, yet of a sick and haunting beauty. During this international conference several scholars from all over the world and from a variety of academic backgrounds attended to discuss, examine and debate in many ways this fascinating and troubled relationship. The result was a really fruitful and interesting debate in which more than seventy papers presented tried to investigate the multiplicity of forms that melancholia has historically taken and extend its meaning beyond the social, medical and epistemological norms that had framed it as a sign of mental disease or a way of behaving to that of a cultural idea. First of four keynotes, Prof. Catherine Maxwell (University of Queen Mary), opened the conference with a stimulating paper entitled The Pleasures of Melancholy which offered delegates an effective overview of all issues in the program. After that, the first of eight parallel sessions (each including three different panels) began: every panel, ranging from artistic and literary to the historical-medical fields, included lectures from different disciplines insured the fertile exchange of ideas, encountering of a variety of research methods and approaches. Many papers analysed, from a literary point of view, the phenomenon of melancholia drawing the poetry of authors such as William Blake, Sylvia Plath, John Hamilton Reynolds, Thomas Stearns Eliot, Louise Glück, Edmund Spencer and Emily Dickinson.

Of particular interest to historians of medicine, humanities scholars and psychologists, the panels of the second day of conference focused on The altered Image of the Self, Melancholy Genius and Insanity and Inwardness and Interdisciplinary Approaches, in which some crucial topics were discussed: Madness and Poetry; Writing and Personality Disorders; Melancholic Genius and Insanity; Hypochondria as a poetic-performative text. Papers presented on the third day (in the panels on The Desolate Landscapes of the Mind, and Mourning and Melancholia) were similarly stimulating. There was no lack of panels dedicated to gender issues (The Melancholy Poetess) and to relationships between music and melancholy (Aesthetics and Perspectives). Although the three-day conference was very intense and challenging for all delegates, finally the internationally acclaimed poet Don Paterson successfully maintained the attention of fatigued scholars with an amazing paper entitled The Landscape and Memory of Words: Poetry and Melancholia.

Emilia Musumeci
University of Catania
Report II

Themed interdisciplinary conferences face the double challenge of mediating the discourse of scholars with different professional backgrounds and expertise. What makes this mix worthwhile is that crossing disciplines opens new avenues of interpretation, even for the most canonical texts.

I am happy to say the Poetry and Melancholia Conference hosted by the University of Stirling successfully bridged the variety of fields represented, including Art History, Literature, Medical Humanities, Philosophy, and Print Media, and a span of time periods from the Early Modern up to the present. The Poetry and Melancholia conference resulted in a generative and exciting interdisciplinary exchange that I am certain will lead to furthering many projects that plumb the complex intersections of poetry and melancholy.

I found the plenary talks by Catherine Maxwell (Queen Mary, University of London), David G. Riede (Ohio State University), and Susan J. Wolfson (Princeton University) to be particularly engaging. Catherine Maxwell provided an overview of melancholy's importance to nineteenth-century poetry, tracing melancholy to the myths of Orpheus and Philomela and reaching a crescendo in her analysis of Tennyson’s women in “The Lady of Shallot,” “The Princess,” and “Marmion.” David Riede’s ongoing interest in melancholy made him an appropriate choice for the conference, and, as another nineteenth century scholar, Riede added to the literary conversation Maxwell opened, while specifically exploring depictions of natural and artificial landscapes as instruments of alienation in the poetry of Thomas Hardy, A.C. Swinburne, and Robert Browning. Susan Wolfson began her presentation with the important question: is melancholy the keyword of the spirit of the Romantic Age? Her close reading the poetry of Felicia Hemans, the queen of melancholy, sets up what I saw as Wolfson’s most interesting point. Wolfson explains that while Joseph Addison argued that women are naturally inclined to be gay and joyous whereas men are naturally melancholy, Mary Wollstonecraft counteracted this essentialization when she argued women’s own melancholy reality is marriage.

Many of Poetry and Melancholia’s presenters emphasized Sigmund Freud’s “Trauer und Melancholie” (1917), tr. “Mourning and Melancholia,” which argues mourning is a healthy, temporary expression of grief articulated by an absence of interest in the outside world, while pathologizing melancholy as an abnormal loss of self-esteem. Freud’s theory has been important historically in the linking of melancholy with clinical depression. A few presenters who used Freud’s “Mourning and Melancholia” as generative starting places for their projects include Cornelia Pearsall (Smith College) and Aaron Proctor (St Charles Community College). Cornelia Pearsall’s essay “Tennyson and Imperial Melancholia,” for example, relied heavily on the psychoanalytic implications of the Demeter and Persephone myth in relation to the expanding British Empire, and particularly the “Imperial Federation League” inspired by John Robert Seeley’s Expansion of England (1883). Aaron Proctor used a Lacanian psychoanalytic approach in his essay “The Visionary Bind: Paternal Desire and Melancholia in Shelley’s Uffizi Notes,” arguing that while exiled in Italy with his lover and future wife Mary Wollstonecraft, Percy Bysshe Shelley pursued libidinal objects in response to his melancholic isolation.

Improved understanding of a humanities approach to melancholy’s vibrant and multidimensional potential is my greatest legacy from the Poetry and Melancholia conference. I was consistently surprised and delighted to encounter poetry with which I felt more than just passing familiar-Tennyson’s ‘Lady of Shallot’; John Keats’s ‘Ode to a Nightingale’- transformed into expressions of melancholy: an attitude, affliction, and inspiration which I feel certain will be reflected in scholarship for years to come.

Kate Holterhoff
Society for the Social History of Medicine Summer Conference

‘EMOTIONS, HEALTH & WELLBEING’
Queen Mary, University of London
10-12 September 2012

Deadline for proposals 16 January 2012

The Society for the Social History of Medicine hosts a major biennial, international, interdisciplinary conference. In 2012, it will be held in conjunction with the Queen Mary Centre for the History of the Emotions.

Plenary Speakers: Professor Mark Jackson (Exeter University); Professor Joanna Bourke (Birkbeck, University of London); Professor William Reddy (Duke University, USA)

The conference this year investigates the intimate relationship between the emotions and medicine. It will cover all chronological periods, and invites historical papers from across the disciplines, including from the medical humanities. The following topics are suggested as guidelines:

• Managing the passions
• Disease, contagion and emotion
• Death and mourning
• Pathologies of emotion
• The politics of wellbeing and happiness
• The chemistry and physiology of emotion
• Psychosomatic medicine and emotion

Full Call for Papers available as a PDF here

or here if you are reading the printed Gazette (pdf link is in penultimate item on this page): http://www.qmul.ac.uk/emotions/events/index.html

Deadline for proposals 16 January 2012

To submit a proposal, please complete the form for either an individual paper or a panel, and send to emotions@qmul.ac.uk.

Discounted registration fees will be available to members of the Society for the Social History of Medicine and the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health.

Convenor: Professor Colin Jones (c.d.h.jones@qmul.ac.uk)

Organising Committee: Dr Thomas Dixon, Dr Rhodri Hayward, Professor Tilli Tansey, Dr Elena Carrera, Dr Tiffany Watt-Smith & (for SSHM) Dr Rosemary Wall.

Supported by wellcome trust

Learning from Lister: Antisepsis, Safer Surgery, and Global Health
King’s College London, Royal Society, Royal College of Surgeons of England
22 – 24 March 2012

‘Joseph Lister almost single-handedly revolutionised modern surgery through his development of antisepsis, or so traditional accounts have stated.’ (Lindsay Granshaw, 1992).

Joseph Lister (1827 – 1912), Professor of Clinical Surgery at King’s College London from 1877 to 1893 and President of the Royal Society from 1895 to 1900, is regarded as a key figure in the foundation of modern surgical methods and infection control. To mark the centenary of Lister’s death, King’s College London will convene a three-day multidisciplinary conference to reassess his achievements and legacy.
The four strands of the conference will cover History, Surgical Practice, Infectious Disease and Health Policy. The conference will provide an opportunity for historians, surgeons, nurses, infectious disease experts, health service researchers and those interested in the development of hospital health policy, translational practices, and hospital safety to discuss their respective approaches to understanding Lister’s contribution to improved surgical and health care practice today.

Papers are requested for 15- or 20-minute parallel sessions which could take the form of talks, workshops or seminars, to be followed by 10 minutes of discussion, covering (but not limited to) topics such as:

- Discipleship
- Translation of principle into practice
- 19th and 20th C surgical craft
- Lister’s legacy and global health
- Advances in surgical science
- Controversy in surgical sciences
- Nursing pedagogy and practice
- Identification and control of infection
- Health care innovation
- Hospital safety
- Sepsis / antisepsis / asepsis
- Dirt / cleanliness

Abstracts should be no more than 400 words, and proposals should state which of the four major strands they would be situated under and sent to julia.howse@kcl.ac.uk

We welcome and encourage papers from scientific, clinical, and health service, history and policy backgrounds, which could cover modern-day bacteriology, asepsis, surgical techniques, and issues in healthcare practice.

The deadline for receipt of papers is Monday 16th January 2012. For a full programme, please visit the Lister website at www.kcl.ac.uk/lister

Supported by the Wellcome Trust, the Lister Hospital, the Lister Institute, King’s College Hospital Trust and the Society for the Social History of Medicine.

Bob Woods Memorial Symposium
Foresight Centre, University of Liverpool
9-10 March 2012

Professor Bob Woods, FBA, John Rankin Professor of Geography in the University of Liverpool died in February 2011. Throughout his University career, as a student in both Cambridge and Oxford, and as a university teacher in Kent, Sheffield and Liverpool, Bob contributed significantly of Population Studies, including the Social History of Medicine (see a full obituary in the British Society for Population Studies Newsletter of March 2011).

http://www2.lse.ac.uk/socialPolicy/BSPS/newsletters/Home.aspx

As a Memorial to Bob’s work, just after the first anniversary of his death, BSPS, Liverpool University and the Society for the Social History of Medicine are sponsoring a Memorial Symposium. The academic programme will comprise five two-hour sessions focusing on the following key aspects of Bob’s contribution: Global Demography; Population modelling; Historical Demography: Fetal, infant and childhood mortality; and of particular interest to SSHM members, Demography and medical history, in which there will be papers by Frans van Poppel, (NIDI, Netherlands) on the mortality of doctors’ children in the Netherlands, and by Chris Galley on Bob’s unfinished manuscript on 18th Century midwifery, Mrs Stone and Dr Smellie. Further offers of papers are welcome for this and other sessions, especially reviewing and developing Bob Woods’ ideas and findings in the field.

Please be in touch in the first instance with Bill Gould (wtsg@liv.ac.uk) on the pro forma below indicating your wish to attend, and preference for offering a paper, with a title and a 100 word abstract.

Name and affiliation:
e-mail: I wish to contribute a paper to the Bob Woods Memorial Symposium
I wish to contribute to the session on........................................
I wish to attend the Symposium but not present a paper.
Please return to Bill Gould (wtsg@liv.ac.uk) as near to 1st December as possible

Proposed Paper title: Abstract:
Since its early days cinema has played an important role in the history of health education and in the practices of visualization of medicine. Medicine and public health education are strongly connected to visual culture. Film can even be seen as a medical technology itself, as Lisa Cartwright, Ramon Reichert, Timothy Boon and others have demonstrated.[1] Embarking on a still emerging field of study, the conference “Communicating Good Health” attracted a select but diverse and elaborate group of public health historians, film scholars, archivists, curators and public health professionals from a variety of European countries, Canada and the United States. The conference was held at the Brocher Fondation located ashore the beautiful Lake Geneva in Switzerland.

The story of public health films is, as the conveners pointedly introduced, a complex and complicated one. The films are neither entirely theatrical nor non-theatrical films, and the stakeholders are constantly changing; films were sponsored by public funds, public health organizations or even privately. A variety of questions concerning audiences, film perception, narrative strategies, but also propaganda and aesthetics re-emerged throughout the conference.

The question of the reception of specific films by specific audiences has been subject to considerable scholarly debate. Public health historians and film scholars discussed (just as the historical producers of these films did at the time) whether these films did have an impact on their audiences at all. Several papers touched upon the problem of the efficacy of these films. Using the metaphor of the truffle-hunter and the parachutist, TIMOTHY BOON (Science Museum, London) pleaded for the integration of audience research in the historical analysis of health films as a means to understand the operation of medical and health cultures in the past.

With reference to the history of science and the emotions, ANJA LAUKOETTER (Max-Planck-Institute for Human Development, Berlin) talked about early film studies undertaken by experimental psychologists and social scientists. In the beginning of the 20th century, these scholars tried to measure the emotional impact of public health films. These studies revealed a gap between the strategies of health educators and research of psychologists. The latter tried to prove that narrative and other affective strategies had virtually no effect on audiences.

While Boon talked about historical audiences, WOLFGANG GAISSMAIER (Max-Planck-Institute for Human Development, Berlin) asked how ‘human animals’ today make decisions under risk or uncertainty. Drawing on recent research on the impact of audiovisual information, he discussed the efficacy of motion pictures and television programs dealing with health information and how movies can help in making informed decisions on issues such as cancer treatments.

Narrative strategies were a second major question. The films often apply a mixture between entertainment and education. The question was thus to which categories these films belong and whether it is possible to talk about these films as a genre. With a comparison of the educational, affective and narrative strategies of the French Bildungsroman and sex education films, ANITA GERTISER (University of Zurich) further sparked the ongoing methodological dispute whether film can be analyzed as text.

Crossing the lines between educational entertainment motion pictures and motion pictures for therapy, SCOTT CURTIS (Northwestern University, Evanston, IL) outlined post-World War Two film programs in
the field of psychology and psychiatry. Since films were seen as “scientific instruments”, health professionals decided to make use of classical Hollywood narrative strategies. As a default choice, filmmakers used actors and actresses to tie into their audiences' viewing patterns with the intention to create docile viewers.

As narrative strategy, the alleviation of fear has been identified as a commonality of public health films, nonetheless, a variety of medical films tried to shock their audiences into compliance. This has particularly been the case with films on sexually transmitted diseases. MICHAEL SAPPOL (National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD) dealt with the larger ethical and moral implications of watching and exhibiting films that were originally produced for specialist audiences. In reference to films about children dying from rabies and leprosy, he discussed the affective dimension of this “cinema of difficult subjects” and the small dividing line between specialists' interests, voyeurism and horror.

Another conundrum the conference tackled was audio-visual aesthetics. VINCENT LOWY (University of Strasbourg) discussed John Ford's film Sex Education (1941). The film was produced for military audiences only and seen by millions of soldiers during the Second World War. Lowy raised questions about aesthetics and pointed to the distinct audio-visual language that came to be characterized as the US version of World War Two propaganda films.

With a focus on the “communication of good health” in a global context, KIRSTEN OSTHERR (Rice University, Houston, TX) examined the usage of animation in health films issued by the World Health Organization (WHO). Ostherr observed a post-World War Two change towards aesthetic modernism in the style of animation that formerly had been dominated by Disney in the 1930s and 1940s. Interestingly, these films were not only translated into several languages and embraced around the globe for decades, they were also pirated across the Iron Curtain.

Several papers asked what kind of methodology was needed for the analysis of these diverse corpora of films. CHRISTIAN BONAH (University of Strasbourg) elaborated on a rich corpus of industrial and “Kulturfilme” from the Bayer archives. Pointing to the problematic relation of film and propaganda, particularly in the first half of the 20th century, he suggested a methodological “double disentanglement” between propaganda and information and proposed to investigate these films as “an archeology of practices”.

Since the meanings of films can change according to their viewing context, one of the many questions the symposium tackled was, how films addressed different national and cultural contexts, and how these films were perceived. Looking at the amalgamation of debates around sex, gender and commerce in the film The End of the Road_ (USA 1918), MIRIAM POSNER (Emory University, Atlanta, GA) not only raised questions about audience reception and public censorship. She also discussed the distribution of the film in a variety of versions. The conference participants discussed the changing meanings in the ensuing debates around this film in cross-national contexts and debated whether there was a specific American moral panic at play in the film.

Of major interest was the debate on these films as an essentially modern practice. Drawing on a 20-year project of film research, ELIZABETH LEBAS (Middlesex University, London) talked about interwar British municipal film programs. Starting with the creation of the Ministry of Health in 1919 local authorities began to regard themselves as responsible for the education, health and moral welfare of their citizens. As a means of persuasion these educators were convinced that film as the modern medium per se could communicate the message that “being healthy was to be modern”. As non-commercial products originating in the communities the films were often shown for a long period of time and seen by viewers who were seen as citizens and not as customers.

In his discussion of films about alcoholism, ALEXANDRE SUMPF (University of Strasbourg) pointed out that in the early Soviet Union an equal understanding of healthy behavior as modern behavior constructing a form of socialist modernity prevailed. Film was
regarded as the only art form able to contribute to the prevention of illness. Importantly, Sumpf further raised the problem of an urban/rural divide in the perception of health films. The assumption that these films should be regarded as products of modernity (many of them aiming at the individual in an effort to evoke individual responsibility) was an underlying commonality of most papers presented at the conference. Contemporary producers, filmmakers and health professionals shared the belief that film was a powerful modern medium and it was debated, whether public health film scholars are simply repeating this discourse.

Looking at film as participant in a discourse on the city as a “medicalizable object” VINZENZ HEDIGER (University of Bochum) investigated a series of films from the early to mid-20th century that draw on the idea of the city as unsafe and unhealthy space. Hediger regarded film as contributor to a kind of “sensory discipline” that is “part and parcel of the discourse of hygiene” of the time.

SUSAN LEDERER (University of Madison, WI) chose to leave established paths in the scholarship on well-known Atomic Age films such as A is for Atom (USA, 1953) or Duck and Cover (USA, 1952). She investigated how these now essential elements of Cold War visual culture discussed the beneficial claims of nuclear medicine.

The conference also provided room for more quantitative assessments of the field of health education films. Starting with an analysis of Nazi military hygiene, URSULA VON KEITZ (University of Bonn) investigated the role of educational films and Kulturfilme as parts of health education in both post-war German states. In view of a large corpus of post-World War Two films, she not only raised questions about the aesthetic forms of those films but also questions how changing concepts of gendered bodies were articulated in these films.

Next to film analysis, narrative strategies and film as discourse participant, the difficulties of film production, distribution and archiving were also discussed. The aspect of film production and distribution was particularly raised by DAVID CANTOR (History Office, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD). Investigating the Eastern Film Corporation as one of the early production companies of public health and medical films, he provided an insight into understanding the serpentine paths of many production companies, their business decisions and their role in the market.

The demand on archives for audiovisual material of all kind is ever increasing. However, the collecting and curatorial processes, technological and archival difficulties, processes of donation, storage, and subject indexing are not always comprehensible to researchers. Presenting a history of the National Library of Medicine’s Historical Audiovisual Collection, PAUL THEERMAN (National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD) helped to gain an insight into these processes. Through the continuing process of digitization more and more films are becoming widely available on the Internet. The panel raised ethical questions about the usage of these medical and public health films in the Youtube Age.

In the lively debates it was concluded that the conference covered considerable mileage in mapping the territory, complexity and potential of public health and medical film research. With regard to the hybridity of the audiovisual material, the different production and distribution contexts, the problems of archival research and the general interdisciplinarity of the field the necessity of knowledge production as a collaborative effort was ascertained. Both the idea of the establishment of a network on public health and medical film research and the announcement that the outcomes of the conference will be published, were therefore received with great enthusiasm.

Gudrun Loehrer
John F. Kennedy-Institute for North American Studies, Free University of Berlin, Germany, e-mail: loehrer@jfki.fu-berlin.de

Notes:

Gudrun Loehrer
John F. Kennedy-Institute for North American Studies, Free University of Berlin, Germany, e-mail: loehrer@jfki.fu-berlin.de

WORKSHOP REPORTS

Leprosy, Language and Identity in the Medieval World
King’s College, Cambridge
2–13 April 2011

This two-day meeting at King’s College, Cambridge, generously funded by the Wellcome Trust and King’s College, Cambridge, marked a timely gathering of scholars working on diverse aspects of the history of leprosy in the Middle Ages. A total of 14 papers were presented by an array of international speakers, from the UK, the USA, France, Germany and Hungary, working in the disciplines of history, literature and archaeology.

The programme consisted of three keynote addresses, five sessions of two or three papers each, and a visit to King’s College Library to examine medical books and manuscripts, led by Peter Jones (Librarian, King’s College, Cambridge). There was a stimulating exchange of ideas throughout the two days, culminating in a roundtable discussion at the end of the workshop.

The workshop opened with a keynote address by Professor Luke Demaitre (University of Virginia) on ‘The Clapper as “Vox Miselli”: New Perspectives on Iconography’. Professor Demaitre surveyed a wide range of images of leprous people with clappers, illustrating that the clapper was a key attribute in the medieval ‘stereotype’ of the leper. However, he urged us to rethink our understanding of what such attributes signified. The clapper carried by the leper, he argued, served not to warn people to stay away, but rather to announce the leper’s arrival, so that the leper might beseech alms. Demaitre’s paper highlighted the complex visual language of leprosy, and the importance of taking great care in how we interpret medieval sources relating to the disease.

Papers by Dr Adelina Angusheva-Tihanov (University of Manchester) and Courtney A. Krolkoski (Central European University, Budapest) addressed the language of leprosy in saints’ lives. Angusheva-Tihanov discussed the detailed medical description of leprosy in the early fifteenth-century Vita of the Serbian king St Stephan of Dechani. She considered both the Byzantine medical sources for this description, and the broader social and cultural discourses which lay behind it. Krolkoski examined the Vita of St Francis of Assisi, reflecting upon how presentations of the saint’s positive responses towards the leprous may have influenced medieval people.

A keynote address by Professor François-Olivier Touati (Université de Tours), ‘Lepers and Leprosy: Connections between East and West in the Middle Ages’, placed the workshop’s discussion in a wider geographical framework. Touati evaluated the extent to which medieval Western Europe was influenced by the East in terms of the arrival of leprosy in Europe, the model of the leper hospital, and developments in medical knowledge and practice. Dr Julie Orlemanski (Harvard University) and Dr Elma Brenner (University of Cambridge) focused on the theme of leprosy and identity. Examining literary sources, Orlemanski considered how the
effects of leprosy on the human face distorted and complicated the manner in which the face conveyed an individual's identity. Brenner's paper, addressing leprosy in the medieval city of Rouen, examined both the extent to which a person's social identity was transformed when they contracted leprosy, and the self-perception of those suffering from leprosy, who often avoided referring to themselves explicitly as being leprous.

Professor Carole Rawcliffe (University of East Anglia) explored the religious dimensions of leprosy in her keynote paper, “A Mighty Force in the Ranks of Christ's Army”: Intercession and Integration in the Medieval English Leper Hospital. She demonstrated that lepers were important intercessors and ‘agents of redemption’ on behalf of the souls of others, and remained so even when leper hospitals fell into decline and the incidence of leprosy decreased in the later Middle Ages. A fundamental component of lepers’ identity, therefore, was their role in the process of intercession and commemoration.

Dr Conan Doyle (University of Cambridge) and Kathleen Vongsathorn (University of Oxford) explored different aspects of the labelling and definition of leprosy. Doyle examined the appearance of the word lepra in an Old English medical text, Bald’s Leechbook, and compared this description with those in texts in Latin and Greek. He demonstrated how careful we need to be in interpreting medieval terminology, and in tracing the translation of key medical terms from one language into another. Vongsathorn’s paper, addressing the perception of leprosy in nineteenth- and twentieth-century Britain following colonial encounters with the leprous in the tropical world, placed medieval leprosy in a broader historical context. Nineteenth- and twentieth-century people drew on perceived biblical and medieval discourses of leprosy in constructing leprosy as the world’s most terrible disease.

Jeanne considered the association between lepers and Christ, and the implications of cases of the miraculous healing of lepers at the tomb of St Thomas Becket at Canterbury from the late twelfth century onwards. Hyacinthe shed light on the identities of the knights of the Order of St Lazarus, not all of whom were leprous, and reflected upon how the Order’s history illuminates medieval notions of disability. Jankrift's paper urged us to think about the identities of lepers who lived outside the institutional context. He discussed wandering lepers in medieval Germany, the ‘brotherhoods’ they formed, and popular perceptions of these leprous migrants.

The final session presented recent archaeological findings relating to medieval leprosy, and demonstrated how the study of material remains deepens our understanding of the identities of leprosy and the leprous. Dr Simon Roffey (University of Winchester) discussed the archaeological evidence for English leper hospitals, particularly that of St Mary Magdalene, Winchester. Dr Max Satchell (University of Cambridge) examined the skeletal evidence for Hansen’s Disease (clinical leprosy) in Britain before c.1000 AD. These papers revealed the wide range of archaeological data available, but simultaneously highlighted methodological difficulties in identifying both the institutional setting in which many lepers lived, and the chronology and prevalence of leprosy itself.

This meeting demonstrated both the current vibrancy of research relating to medieval leprosy, and how much remains to be discovered about the disease and its sufferers in the Middle Ages. It is hoped that the contacts made between scholars at the workshop, and the planned publication of the proceedings, will further promote the study of this important subject.

Dr Elma Brenner,
Mellon Post-doctoral Research Fellow,
Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies,
University of Toronto
Putting Medicine in its Place: Exploring the Role of Place in Relation to Medical Practice, Health & Disease

Department of Philosophy
University of Bristol
8 July 2011

This well-attended one-day workshop provided a timely forum to re-evaluate the importance of location in medical histories, as the current prevalence of site-specific micro-history increasingly extends beyond dedicated journals such as *Health and Place*.

Participants were told in advance to expect an additional attendee: a skeleton whose mute presence provided the focus for a lively story. In this first paper of the day Heidi Dawson (Bristol) applied an osteo-archaeological analysis to our Medieval ‘silent witness’, to suggest how the place of burial within a churchyard and the physical evidence of scars and injuries might together connect social status with medical histories. Interest piqued at the possibilities burial grounds present to historians of medicine, Felicia Smith (Arnos Vale Cemetery) explored further ways that historians might exploit the underutilised evidence they contain. Even with less invasive measures, Felicia indicated that headstones, tombs and ledgers contain valuable clues to the health of past populations.

The second session included a paper on John Hunter, famous for his own interest in the anatomical, though Clare Hickman (Bristol) focused instead on Hunter’s gardens as a place of scientific enquiry. Clare provided a compelling case for revisiting the extent and significance of John Hunter’s garden-laboratory at the then-rural Earl’s Court, based on a well-substantiated claim that much of our existing knowledge derives from a single highly jaundiced account. Michael Brown (Roehampton) looked at another unrelated Hunter of the eighteenth century. In a vividly-drawn portrait, Michael suggested that participation within literary circles enabled Alexander Hunter to secure co-option into polite society, despite the apparent disadvantages of provincial life. Both papers in this session provided a strong case for the reassessment of historically-provincial areas in the formation and contestation of medical knowledge.

After lunch, we were treated to two papers that dealt with the rise and fall of the twentieth-century model factory. If the tobacco and asbestos factories examined in these papers perhaps epitomise unhealthy industries, Sarah Hayes (Exeter) and Vicky Long (Northumbria) suggested how twentieth-century planners sought to recreate them as sites of emotional and physical wellbeing. Vicky argued that such rhetoric concealed important differences in provision, especially discernible between smaller factories unable to justify the ambulance rooms and medical staffs found in larger enterprises. Outside the factory, Sarah’s paper suggested that by the time Wills’ tobacco factory in Bristol had planned reforms in the 1970s public attitudes had grown increasingly sceptical that such environments could become healthy places.

My paper then explored London’s reputation as a place at the forefront of mental aftercare provision. It explored a comparable interplay between province and capital to that Michael and Clare had identified in an earlier period. In particular, the paper suggested that whilst the London County Council can be credited with a notably proactive approach to aftercare policy in the twentieth century, it built upon earlier provincial approaches and a nineteenth-century legacy of voluntary aftercare planned to provide a tonic antidote to the toxic environment of London’s East End.

With remarkable powers of assimilation, Jonathan Reinarz (Birmingham) then drew together some of the themes that united the day’s papers, including different accounts of centres and peripheries and the shifting meanings invested in single locales. Jonathan further suggested how historians have started to engage with ‘practices of place’ that invest locations with specific meaning. The paper summarised key research questions that connected the papers, in a way that exemplified Jonathan’s own call for researchers to go beyond atomised micro-studies and identify thematic ‘isolines’ that draw broader significance out of local stories.

Finally, attendees had the opportunity to share their reflections. One area that received particular attention was the question of whether place has become a sufficiently significant analytical tool to represent a ‘turn’ in historical
thought. Simon Szreter (2002) has claimed that place has historically been more significant to health than class. The workshop suggested such perspectives are still open to debate; yet perhaps more importantly it also indicated the extent of interest in place as a tool for historical analysis. Such interest was well served by this absorbing workshop, which suggests the historiography of place is itself in very robust health.

Stephen Soanes
Centre for the History of Medicine
University of Warwick

CALLS FOR PAPERS: SYMPOSIAS, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS

Science, Medicine, and the Making of Race
2012 Porter Fortune Symposium
Department of History
University of Mississippi
March 8 -10 2012

Deadline for Submissions is: 16/12/2011.

This symposium explores the intersection of scientific ideas about race and gender with medical practice and experimentation, from the 18th to the 20th century. As racialized science was developing, non-white bodies were often favorite subjects of medical research. This symposium seeks papers from the fields of history of science, history of medicine, and general history exploring the topic of how race and gender get written into (or out of) science, whether in the context of colonialism, slavery, healthcare policies, or museum acquisitions.

We are very happy to announce our keynote speaker for the event will be Londa Schiebinger, the John L. Hinds Professor of History of Science at Stanford University. Dr. Schiebinger is the author of Nature’s Body: Gender in the Making of Modern Science (winner of the 1995 Ludwik Fleck Book Prize), Plants and Empire: Colonial Bioprospecting in the Atlantic World (winner of the 2005 AHA prize in Atlantic History, and the Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prize, French Colonial Historical Society, 2005), as well as numerous other works on race, gender, and science.

The University of Mississippi and its Department of History have held the Porter Fortune Symposium every year since 1975, on various topics. It is a three-day event, with both a keynote address and a number of thematic sessions. Typically, selections of the papers appear in an edited volume.

Please submit a one-page proposal and a c.v. to conference organizer: Theresa Levitt (tlevitt@olemiss.edu) or Deirdre Cooper Owens (dbowen@olemiss.edu). Please include in the body of the email: your name, institutional affiliation, and contact information. Panel submissions are also encouraged. These should include a 250-word rationale for the panel, as well as the 250-word abstract for each paper. Please submit each panel in one email message (including the names, affiliations, and contact information of each member).

Dr. Deirdre Cooper Owens
Assistant Professor of History
University of Mississippi
Department of History
Bishop Hall 307
P.O. Box 1848
University, MS 38677

CALLS FOR ARTICLES/CHAPTERS

Call for Submissions for a Special Issue of Mosaic: Blindness

This issue will bring together critical and disability theories to address historical and contemporary studies and interpretations of blindness across various genres, as well as studies of, to use Samuel Weber’s title words (in Institution and Interpretation), “The Blindness of the Seeing Eye.” We seek submissions relating to any of the following: blindness as disability; blindness in theory; exposition or exposé; architecture’s historical and contemporary engagements with light and sight; humanism; image; history and philosophy of the senses; sexual difference; autobiography; surveillance; spectacle; animal ethics; perception;

---

psychoanalysis; prosthesis; weeping; vision and visuality; haunting; gaze; the frontal perspective.

**Deadline for submissions: April 16 2012.**

If you would like to contribute an essay for review, please refer to the Submit an Essay section of our website http://www.umanitoba.ca/publications/Mosaic/submit/

Founded in 1967, the year of Canada's centennial, Mosaic is an interdisciplinary journal devoted to publishing the very best critical work in literature and theory. The journal brings insights from a wide variety of disciplines to bear on literary texts, cultural climates, topical issues, divergent art forms and modes of creative activity.

Mosaic combines rigorous scholarship with cutting-edge exploration of theory and literary criticism. It publishes contributions from scholars around the world and it distributes to 34 countries. In North America, Mosaic is read by subscribers in almost every state and province. It can be found in over 500 of the world's major university and college libraries

**Legacy: Special issue, "Women Writing Disability"**

Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers is soliciting papers for a special issue devoted to the intersection of women, women writers, and disability. Rosemarie Garland-Thomson observes that many parallels exist between the "social meanings attributed to female bodies and those assigned to disabled bodies." To this extent it would be hard to imagine early twentieth-century psychoanalysis without "women's diseases" like hysteria or nervous disorders. Female sexuality and reproduction have, historically, been monitored by a male medical and psychoanalytic profession. Building design, fashion, and juridical definitions of identity have reinforced the idea that, as Iris Marion Young says, "women in sexist society are physically handicapped." Concepts of aesthetic perfection and beauty are often figured around idealized (often naked) female bodies for which marked or disabled bodies are considered aberrant. Much western literature is formed around the volatile bodies of the Medusa, the madwoman in the attic, and the consumptive heroine. Feminist and Queer theory have been at the forefront in recognizing the ways that gender and sexual difference have been articulated through the non-traditional, excessive, or abnormal body, making gender /sexuality visible by positing an idealized norm of physical and mental perfection.

This special issue of Legacy will feature scholarship on American women writers dealing with issues of embodiment, illness, cognitive disability, deafness, blindness, mobility, dependency, and other related issues. Our hope is to find essays that cover the full range of American cultural production, from the colonial period to WWII and across the Americas broadly defined.

"Writing Disability" implies both the representation of disability by women writers as well as the role that disability plays in an author's writing. Topics might include intersections between women and disability through any of the following categories:

* The body of the aesthetic
* Women's work and workplace design
* Reproduction rights and disability
* Eugenics and reform
* Dependency work
* Women and d/Deaf education
* Manifest Destiny and mobility
* The Republican body
* Visibility, staring, stigma
* Immigration, race, and disease
* Communities of disability
* Slavery and structural violence
* Suffragism and disability
* Disability and the family

**Deadline: Completed Papers must be submitted by 1 January 2012.**

Historical focus may cover all periods prior to 1940; Page limit, 10,000 words (including endnotes and list of works cited) using MLA format. Send hard-copy of papers to Michael Davidson, Literature Department 0410, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093-0410. Questions pertaining to the issue may be addressed to mdavidson@ucsd.edu.
Emotions in the Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean World
*Mirabilia* 15 (2012/2) (Jul-Dec 2012)

The international peer-reviewed journal *Mirabilia* (ISSN 1676-5818) requests submissions of previously unpublished articles that treat any aspect of the emotional domain in the Mediterranean world. Candidates are encouraged to limit their primary scope to the ancient and medieval periods, although papers considering the early modern aspect will also be considered for publication in number 15 of the journal, which corresponds to the July-to-December semester and is titled Emotions in the Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean World. Studies with a strong comparative and/or interdisciplinary focus are encouraged.

**The deadline for submission is the 31st of April of 2012**, and decisions regarding acceptance will be communicated no later than fifteen days later (along with necessary modifications, if applicable). Submissions and any questions should be directed to Prof. Enric Mallorquí-Ruscalleda (emallorq@hotmail.com), Assistant Professor of Medieval Iberian and early modern Transatlantic studies at Mississippi State University (USA), and coordinator of this volume.

Although the language of preference is English, studies written in any romance language, as well as German, will be considered. For more information about the journal, the evaluation criteria, or other relevant questions, please see: http://www.revistamirabilia.com

---

**CONFERENCE NOTICES**

The British Society for the History of Science Postgraduate Conference
University of Warwick
4-6 January 2012

This annual 3-day event gives postgraduates to convene from a wide range of universities and disciplines to discuss our common interests, share experiences and network in a friendly and receptive environment.

**Programme**

The programme will see parallel sessions of papers spanning all three days. Additional sessions will include an author/reviewer workshop held by the Publisher for Elsevier's history and philosophy of science portfolio, including journals such as *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* and *Endeavour*. There will be a drinks reception on Wednesday evening and a conference dinner on Thursday evening.

**Registration (deadline 9th December)** is now open - register here
http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/chm/events/conferences_workshops/bshs/registration/

**Venue and Travel**

The University of Warwick is located in the heart of England, close to the M6/M42/M40 motorway networks and roughly a half hour by bus from Coventry train station. For those from further afield, Birmingham airport is 15 minutes away from Coventry by rail.

**Conference Fees**

We expect the conference fee to be £20, and all delegates will be warmly invited to a silver-service dinner on Thursday 5th January, which is an additional £30. Hotel accommodation on Wednesday and Thursday in the on-campus Arden House will be available on a first-come, first-served basis at a rate (subsidised by the BSHS) of £20 per night. So the full conference cost will be around £90.

The BSHS is able to make a limited contribution to some attendees' travel expenses through Butler-Eyles Travel Grants.

For further information please contact David Beck - BSHSpostgrad@warwick.ac.uk

Organisers: David Beck, Martin Moore, Emily Andrews, Claire Sewell

---

**Cultures of Anatomical Collections**

Leiden University
15-18 February 2012

The conference ‘Cultures of Anatomical Collections’ will explore anatomical preparations
and collections (preparations of human material as well as wax- and other models) as important parts of our cultural heritage. This means that we treat them in a similar way as we would examine other historical artifacts stored in today’s museum. Although the history of anatomy and anatomical illustrations has been a popular topic in the history of medicine during the last decade, the history of its material remains has been somewhat neglected. And yet, in particular when taking into account recent historiographies of materiality and medical practices, it offers challenging interdisciplinary questions on the history of anatomy as a whole. Possible topics include: How do the technical details of anatomical preparations tell us about the ideas of their maker; How do ideas on beauty and perfection shape preparations; How were preparations handled and used for teaching purposes: How does the interest of non-medical audiences shape anatomical preparations; How does the housing of a collection affect its outlook and popularity?

The conference has keynote lectures and the following sessions:

**Keynote Lectures: Ruth Richardson and Andrew Cunningham**

1. **Beauty, Perfection and Materiality in Early Modern Anatomical Collections**
   Organiser: Marieke Hendriksen
   Confirmed speaker: Anita Guerrini
   This session deals with questions regarding the materiality and aesthetics of early modern anatomical preparations. So far historians of medicine have described the beauty and perfection of early modern anatomical preparations using modern (post-Kantian) understandings of aesthetics. Yet, early modern anatomical preparations must be related to early modern ideas of aesthetics, which were about beauty and perfection as well as about sense perception and experiment. Possible questions include: How does the materiality of preparations tell us more about contemporary ideals of beauty and perfection and vice versa? How can changes in theses ideals be traced in the make-up of anatomical collections? How are beauty and perfection related to natural philosophical ideas on sense perception and experiment? How do ideas of beauty and perfection relate to the morality of the early modern anatomical theatre?

2. **Anatomical Collections and Scientific Medicine in the Nineteenth Century**
   Organiser: Hieke Huistra
   Confirmed speaker: Simon Chaplin
   With the birth of the clinic and the introduction of laboratory methods, medicine in the nineteenth century changed profoundly. At first sight it would seem as if these changes would pose a threat to the position and function of anatomical collections in research and teaching. This was, however, not the case – institutional anatomical collections flourished in the nineteenth century. In this session we explore questions such as what were the status and function of early modern collections in the nineteenth century? How were old (in most cases early modern) preparations displayed and used in the new scientific medicine? How did the use, content, accessibility and display change during the nineteenth century? How did the new collections relate to the ‘new’ disciplines of comparative anatomy and pathology?

3. **Handling Anatomical Collections**
   Organiser: Rina Knoeff
   Confirmed speakers: Sam Alberti, Tim Huisman
   This session is directed at exploring the role of the curator of the anatomical museum. Almost invisible and hardly discussed in historical discourse, he is daily busy and literally in touch with the collections. He has always been of utmost importance for the making of preparations and the general outlook of anatomical collections. Possible questions include: What are the tasks of a curator and how have they changed over time? How did/does a curator determine the outlook of a preparation and collection? How did/does he influence the focus, significant silences and boundaries of collections? How did/do his responsibilities oscillate between professional medics and the public? How did/does he merge the interests of these two groups?

4. **Anatomical Collections as Public History**
   Organiser: Rina Knoeff
   Confirmed speaker: Anna Maerker
   This session is about the role of the public in the making and survival of anatomical collections.
Faced with recent controversies surrounding the public exhibition of human material (in particular Körperwelten) anatomical museums are faced with the questions of which exhibits should be on show, for what purposes (teaching or general interest?) and how they should be exhibited. Yet, these questions are of all times – after all, anatomical collections have almost always been publically accessible. Studying the history of anatomical collections from the public perspective can answer questions such as how are historical preparations presented in (today’s) museum and how have their public meanings transformed over time? How has public curiosity been regulated? How has the public eye influenced the presentation of a preparation?

5. Comments and Final Discussion
Organisers: Rina Knoeff, Marieke Hendriksen, Hieke Huistra, Rob Zwijnenberg.

Contact: Rina Knoeff on r.knoeff@hum.leidenuniv.nl
http://www.hum.leiden.edu/research/culturesofcollecting/

Mind and Madness: The Mind and Its Languages
Germanic Graduate PG Student Association
Ohio State University
Columbus, OH
17-18 February 2012

As human beings grow ever closer to understanding their bodies, one aspect remains mysterious: the mind and its internal functions. Historically, the mind is most closely examined when a person exhibits behavior outside of the ‘normal,’ especially in processes of communication. Observations of what the 19th century termed ‘madness’ also present portals for studying linguistic and other manifestations and representations of mental functions. The German-speaking world has, in its arts, medicine, science, and popular culture, often concerned itself with the normal and abnormal minds. These interests have extended to how one ought best cultivate the mind, which minds were and were not capable of improvement, the dark worlds of dreams and magic, the social position of the insane in realist literature, and insanity’s ‘true’ causes. This interest continues into present concerns for mental health education and awareness, as well as artistic depictions of (particularly) depression and anxiety.

The conference may explore, but is not limited to the following themes:

•Defining madness
•Irrationality and the artist
•Connection between body and mind
•Mind shaping language, language shaping mind
•Violence of mind, i.e. delirium, psychotic episodes •Self-diagnosis/hypochondria (from Goethe to blogging) •Free will - brain chemistry, or fate?
•Alterations of the mental state by external means (drugs, suggestion, etc) in literature
•Mind-altering language—spells and potions
•Gender and madness—pathologized or celebrated?
•Personal language of madness vs. language of clinical diagnosis •The dialogue of fantasy/imagined realities vs. objective realities

Any queries: Alex Holznienkemper:
holznienkemper.1@osu.edu

Food and the City
Boston University
Boston University History Department
24-25 February 2012

This two-day conference welcomes scholars from a broad range of disciplines to explore the history of the relationship between food and cities within a global framework. Our conference intends to look at the history of the relationship between food and urban populations in ways that may inform our future food systems. More broadly, we will consider food history as an emerging field that brings together scholarship from disciplines such as history, economics, environmental science, technology, anthropology, politics, geography, and archeology. We seek to explore consumer practices, but also encourage proposals that examine the movement of food to and from cities, suppliers and processors, and markets. What factors shape the transport, storage and
delivery of food to cities? How has the supply and storage process changed? How do markets reflect particular social and economic traditions? What influences popular food behavior and attitudes in different cities?

Two keynote speakers, Dr. Ken Albala from the University of the Pacific, and Dr. Warren Belasco from the University of Maryland at Baltimore will provide their views of the history of urban food systems from their respective disciplines. Dr. Albala is Professor of History at the University of the Pacific. He is the author of many books on food including *Eating Right in the Renaissance, Food in Early Modern Europe, Cooking in Europe 1250-1650, The Banquet, Beans: A History* (winner of the 2008 IACP Jane Grigson Award), and *Pancake*. Dr. Belasco Warren Belasco is a professor of American studies at the University of Maryland at Baltimore County. He is the author of *Meals to Come: A History of the Future of Food* (University of California Press, 2006), *Appetite for Change: How the Counterculture Took on the Food Industry* (Pantheon Books, 1989; Cornell University Press, 1993, 2007), and *Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910–1945* (MIT Press, 1979).

For more information contact Robyn Metcalfe at history@bu.edu.

---

**Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science**

**Emory Conference Center**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

**2-3 March 2012**

The Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science (SAHMS) invites paper proposals for its fourteenth annual meeting on March 2-3, 2012, at the Emory Conference Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

SAHMS welcomes papers on the history of medicine and science, broadly construed to encompass historical, literary, anthropological, philosophical and sociological approaches to health care and science including race, disabilities and gender studies. For further information contact Dr. Lisa Pruitt, Program Committee Chair:

lpruitt@mtsu.edu Visit the website at http://www.sahms.net/

---

**Global Anti-Vice Activism, ca. 1870-1940: Fighting Drink, Drugs, and Venereal Diseases**

**Centro Stefano Franscini congress centre**

**Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Zurich (ETH Zurich)**

**Monte Verità**

**1-4 April 2012**

From mid-19th century onwards a growing number of non-governmental organizations, intellectuals and policy-makers became concerned with 'vices' that appeared to pose a vital threat to national populations and even humanity at large, such as alcoholism, drug trade/abuse, prostitution and deviant sexual behaviors. A basic question is why did the fight against them mobilize people around the globe? Promoters of Eugenics and 'social hygiene' - intellectual and political currents that attracted influential supporter in all parts of the world, especially between the 1890s and the 1940s - understood intoxicants and sexually transmitted diseases as 'racial poisons' (Mariana Valverde), against which society had to be defended. Projects of social reform and national 'regeneration' in metropolitan, colonial, and post-colonial countries thus involved measures to fight, control and contain those poisons. The time period which is the focus of the conference was marked by a large increase in voluntary organizations, which were often well connected beyond national boundaries. Social and political movements such as socialism, feminism, and anti-colonial nationalism became also in many different ways engaged in debating and solving issues of 'vice.'

The conference thus explores, firstly, how 'vices' became reframed in the context of international bio-political discourses. Apparently, scientific, medical, and biological concepts became increasingly important over against moral and religious arguments against illicit behavior and consumption. Secondly, it seeks to understand why intoxicating substances and venereal diseases became addressed as global issues. The trade in intoxicants (such as the export of gin to West Africa) as well as the traffic in women, or
the mobility of sex workers were not confined to any national or imperial boundaries, but constantly threatened and transcended them. Finally, the conference addresses the question of regulation.

Anti-vice activism was crucial in setting the agenda for both governmental interference and international regulation. The conference seeks to bring together research on organizations and initiatives which campaigned against vices - on the organizational repertoires they relied on, the languages they used, the contacts the established, the people they were able to mobilize - with papers analyzing the interaction of state, non-state, and supra-state actors in the making of regulatory regimes.

**Conveners:** Harald Fischer-Tiné and Jana Tschurenev, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (http://www.gmw.ethz.ch)  

---

**Fat Studies 2012**  
**Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association**  
**Boston**  
**11 - 14 April 2012**

Fat Studies is becoming an interdisciplinary, cross-disciplinary field of study that confronts and critiques cultural constraints against notions of “fatness” and “the fat body”; explores fat bodies as they live in, are shaped by, and remake the world; and creates paradigms for the development of fat acceptance or celebration within mass culture. Fat Studies uses body size as the starting point for a wide-ranging theorization and explication of how societies and cultures, past and present, have conceptualized all bodies and the political/cultural meanings ascribed to every body. Fat Studies reminds us that all bodies are inscribed with the fears and hopes of the particular culture they reside in, and these emotions often are mislabeled as objective “facts” of health and biology. More importantly, perhaps, Fat Studies insists on the recognition that fat identity can be as fundamental and world-shaping as other identity constructs analyzed within the academy and represented in media.

**Topics may include but are not limited to:**
- representations of fat people in literature, film, music, nonfiction, and the visual arts
- cross-cultural or global constructions of fatness and fat bodies
- cultural, historical, inter/intrapersonal, or philosophical meanings of fat and fat bodies
- the geography and lived experience of fatness and fat bodies
- portrayals of fat individuals and groups in news, media, magazines
- fatness as a social or political identity
- fat acceptance, activism, and/or pride movements and tactics
- approaches to fat and body image in philosophy, psychology, religion, sociology
- fat children in literature, media, and/or pedagogy
- fat as it intersects with race, ethnicity, class, religion, ability, gender, and/or sexuality
- history and/or critique of diet books and scams
- functions of fatphobia or fat oppression in economic and political systems

See:  
http://pcaaca.org/conference/national.php

contact email: jmccross@gwmail.edu ; goddess_les@yahoo.com

---

**History of Women’s Health Conference**  
**Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia**  
**18 April 2012**

The History of Women’s Health Conference focuses on women’s health issues from the late 18th century to the present. This conference encourages interdisciplinary work. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, obstetrics and gynecology issues (fertility, infertility, birth control methods, menopause), adolescence (health, cultural influences, body image, puberty, eating disorders), mental health topics, geriatric concerns, overall women’s health, access to health care, minority health, nursing, midwifery, female healers, and more.

The History of Women’s Health Conference began in 2006 as part of the Pennsylvania
Hospital’s celebration of co-founder Benjamin Franklin’s tercentenary. Each year since, scholars from the humanities and health care professionals gather to discuss the past, present, and future state of women’s health. The conference is jointly sponsored by the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department and the Pennsylvania Hospital Historic Collection.

Pennsylvania Hospital, the nation’s first hospital, is a 515-bed acute care facility that provides a full range of diagnostic and therapeutic medical services and functions as a major teaching and clinical research institution.

Any questions, or for more information:

Stacey C Peeples
Curator-Lead Archivist
Pennsylvania Hospital
3 Pine East, 800 Spruce St.
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 829-5434 (v)
(215) 829-7155 (f)
Email: peepless@pahosp.com

For more information please visit our web site at http://pennhealth.com/pahosp/ For more on our collections or the history of Pennsylvania Hospital, please visit http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/paharc

Development, Health and Humanitarian Crises in Post-Colonial Africa
Institute of African Studies
Emory University
20-21 April 2012

During the past 50 years, international development has been a dominant feature in the construction of African states and communities and in the daily lives of millions of Africans. Development has generated debates and ongoing conversations within transnational organizations, governments in Africa and across the world and, powerfully, at the local level as people grapple with and shape efforts to improve their lives.

Development, global health and humanitarian intervention have attracted an increasingly large and diverse number of scholars and practitioners from a range of disciplines and institutional bases. Some of the most innovative and important current work on Africa explores issues such as human rights, gender and gender-based violence, equity, poverty, social justice, and health and healing, offering ways of reimagining how we think about politics, the state and social life in the postcolony.

Scholars from different disciplines are analyzing development through a range of lenses that move beyond the economic to include a focus on art, gender relations, politics and literature. Theoretical and methodological divides persist, especially among the social sciences and life sciences and humanities-based studies of development and health, as well as between those working inside and outside the academy.

This two-day conference is aimed at a critical engagement with the forms and daily practices of intervention in Africa, and in the intellectual questions and scholarly communities that have emerged over the past half-century on development, health, and humanitarian action. We invite papers from advanced graduate students and junior and senior scholars, as well as practitioners. The conference centers on the intensive discussion of pre-circulated papers of unpublished work-in-progress. We are also planning a roundtable discussion with Atlanta-based institutions working in Africa in the fields of health and economic development. We are particularly interested in papers that pose unexpected questions, that traverse and engage with disciplinary practices as well as practitioners working in the field, and which address the following topics:

· the histories, politics and anthropologies of humanitarian intervention and public health · gender-based violence and reconstruction in post-conflict societies · social and economic development from the perspectives of equity, social justice and health · environment and ecology as contested arenas of intervention · meanings of health and targets of development amid increasing chronic disease · mental health and histories of mental health care policies and initiatives · infectious diseases as a barrier to development · changing ideas about nutrition
and food security · religion, health and development · the place of public healing.

For more information please email: ccrails@emory.edu

SYMPOSIUM, WORKSHOP, SEMINAR & NOTICES

Psychology, Emotion, and the Human Sciences A Symposium
University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario Canada
20 -21 April 2012

In Alchemies of the Mind: Rationality and the Emotions (Cambridge, 1999), Jon Elster argues that "with an important subset of the emotions (for example, regret, relief, envy, malice, pity, indignation, ...) we can learn more from moralists, novelists, and playwrights than from the cumulative findings of scientific psychology." Elster then explores the work of both ancient and early modern moral philosophers in order to substantiate his argument.

This symposium will explore Elster's assertions: what can contemporary 'scientific psychology,' barely 150 years old, teach us about the emotions that early modern literary and philosophical inquiry cannot? Does psychology (of various sorts) deserve its status as the discipline of feeling? What can contemporary philosophical work teach us about feeling and emotion? Are there viable ways of bringing historical and contemporary emotional inquiry into contact? What insight can various forms of inquiry bring to the increasingly prominent issue of affective education (the education of emotions, dispositions, and values)? What is the status of emotional inquiry across disciplines?

Possible topics might include, but are not limited to, the following:

- rhetoric and the emotions
- emotion and informal logic
- argument and emotion
- affective education
- emotion in the classroom
- the history of psychology
- neuroscience and emotion

- the passions in history
- psychoanalysis and emotion
- the sociology of emotion

For more information, contact Stephen Pender, spender@uwindsor.ca

Seminars

Disability History Seminar Series
Institute of Historical Research, London

Mondays, 5pm
Stewart House (adjacent to the Institute of Historical Research.

Spring 2012
06/02/2012
Vicky Long (Glasgow Caledonian University)
Illness or disability? Conceptualising the long-stay patient in post-war mental health services
Venue: ST273, 2nd floor, Stewart House

05/03/2012
Ann Roberts (University of Exeter)
TBA
Venue: ST276, 2nd floor, Stewart House

02/04/2012
Simon Jarrett and Rosie Sherrington (English Heritage)
Breaking out of the asylum: presenting disability history through space, place and landscape
Venue: ST273, 2nd floor, Stewart House

Organizer: Dr Julie Anderson
Director: Centre for the History of Medicine, Ethics and Medical Humanities School of History Rutherford College University of Kent Canterbury
j.p.anderson@kent.ac.uk

Psychoanalysis and History Programme
Institute of Historical Research, London

Senate House, South block, Ground floor, Bedford Room, G37, Wednesdays 5.30pm

7 December: Sarah Chaney (UCL history of Medicine): "The single swallow does not make a summer": Psychological Approaches in Late Nineteenth-century Asylum Case Histories
18 January: Marcia Pointon (Professor Emeritus History of Art, University of Manchester): ‘Inversions: casts, masks and mortality’ (room S264)

29 February: Shaul Bar-Haim (Birkbeck): "Reading between the lines": regressive states as social indicators in 1950s Britain

14 March: Emma Sutton (UCL History of Medicine): William James and the Varieties of Moral Medicine (title to be confirmed)

28 March: Barbara Taylor (Uel): Historical Subjectivity

9 May Matthew Thomson (Warwick): Bowlbyism and the Postwar Settlement

6 June: Emma Francis (Warwick): Psychoanalysis in Egypt: Victorian novels (tbc)

Katy Pettit
Administrator
Raphael Samuel History Centre
www.raphael-samuel.org.uk

NEWS FROM HOM CENTRES

Swansea University
Disability and Industrial Society project results in million pound award for Swansea University

The Wellcome Trust has granted a Swansea University led research team almost £1 million for a project which will explore the history of disability and industrialisation.

The research entitled ‘Disability and Industrial Society: A Comparative Cultural History of British Coalfields’ will bring together academics from Swansea, Aberystwyth, Northumbria and Strathclyde Universities to focus on how industrialization shaped perceptions and experiences of disability between 1780 and 1948.

The grant for £972,501, which will run from October 2011 to September 2016, makes Swansea the leading UK centre for disability history with a research programme of international significance.

The research team will be led by Professor Anne Borsay of the College of Human and Health Sciences whose book, Disability and Social Policy in Britain since 1750: A History of Exclusion (2005) has played a key role in developing disability history.

She will be supported by Dr David Turner of the University’s College of Arts and Humanities, who has recently held a prestigious Arts and Humanities Research Council Fellowship award for his work on disability in eighteenth-century England.

Four themes will be addressed by the team: the effects of economic and technological developments; the role of medical and welfare services; the consequences of politics, trade unionism and social relations; and the implications of these historical factors for the literary genre of coalfield narrative.

The project will produce a number of books and articles, as well as a web page of statistical data. The public engagement programme will ensure that the research findings are accessible to all, and will include a roadshow in south Wales in 2012, a workshop for health and social care professionals, and an exhibition on coalfield disability at the National Waterfront Museum in Swansea.

Professor Borsay said, “I am delighted to have this opportunity to progress the neglected field of disability history. The team is excited by the challenges of interdisciplinary, comparative research across three coalfields and looks forward to presenting the findings to a wide audience. We are grateful to the Wellcome Trust for their generous support.”

A disabled people’s panel will be convened eight times during the tenure of the award to ensure that the research and public engagement is informed by disabled people’s perspectives.

Dr Turner said, “For disabled people today, the project’s findings will challenge understandings of disability by demonstrating that attitudes and policies are socially constructed, and therefore open to change. The project will also contribute
to current debates about welfare relief and ability to work by revealing the changing role of social, political and medical factors in determining eligibility for assistance.”

Rhian Davies, Chief Executive of Disability Wales said, “In history disabled people are most often characterised as the ‘deserving poor’. Disability Wales looks forward to participating in this timely research project which places disabled people at the centre of an unfolding story where disability and industrialisation are inextricably intertwined in ways which still resonate today”.

Three new posts will be funded at Swansea as a result of the project – two research fellow positions, and a PhD studentship. There will also be a research associate role created in each of the collaborating universities.

Dr Hywel Francis, MP for Aberavon, said, “This project is exciting for south Wales as it will look at a part of our coalmining history which has been previously neglected. Whilst coalmining communities in this region are renowned for their social solidarity it will be interesting to learn if disabilities caused as a result of working in this dangerous and unpredictable industry impacted on social unity, with what results and if this changes our understanding of our industrial past.”

For more information on Professor Anne Borsay, see her online profile here: http://www.swansea.ac.uk/staff/academic/humanandhealthsciences/borsaya/

AWARDS/GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS

Barbara Bates Center for the Study of History of Nursing
Annual Fellowships
Pennsylvania

The Barbara Bates Center for The Study of the History of Nursing offers fellowships and research awards to support: residence at the Center, ongoing collaboration with nurse historians, and historical research in nursing.

It is expected that the research and new materials produced by our scholars will help ensure the growth of scholarly work focused on the history of nursing. For information about applying for a Bates Center Fellowship please click on the links below.

This year's deadline is December 31, 2011. All fellowship materials should be sent to Center Associate Director Barbra Mann Wall, PhD, RN, FAAN: wallbm@nursing.upenn.edu>
http://www.nursing.upenn.edu/history/Pages/FellowshipsandAwards.aspx

American Association for the History of Nursing Grants Program

H 15 Grant

The American Association for the History of Nursing is offering a research grant of $3000 for new researchers. (Indirect costs of 8% are also available) Applicants must be members of AAHN and hold the doctorate. They may be faculty members or independent researchers. It is expected that the research and new materials produced by the award winner will help ensure the growth of scholarly work focused on the history of nursing. Deadline for Submission of applications: April 1. Date of Award: June 1
H 31 Pre-doctoral Research Grant
This grant is designed to encourage and support graduate training and historical research at the Masters and Doctoral levels. The grant will be $2,000.

Eligibility Criteria
Proposals will focus on a significant question in the history of nursing. The student will be enrolled in an accredited masters program or doctoral program. The student will be a member of AAHN. The research advisor will be doctorally prepared with scholarly activity in the field of nursing history and prior experience in guidance of research training.

The deadline for all Grants is April 1

American Association for the History of Nursing, Inc.
10200 W 44th Avenue Suite 304
Wheat Ridge, CO, 80033
303-422-2685
aahn@aahn.org

The Francis A. Countway Library
Fellowships in the History of Medicine
2012-2013

The Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine will offer two annual fellowships to support research in the history of medicine. The Countway Library is the largest academic medical library in the United States, and its Center for the History of Medicine holds 250,000 books and journals published before 1920, and is strong in virtually every medical discipline. The Countway’s archives and manuscripts include the personal and professional papers of prominent American physicians, many of whom were associated with Harvard Medical School. The printed, manuscript, and archival holdings are complemented by prints, photographs, and the collections of the Warren Anatomical Museum.

The Francis A. Countway Library Fellowships in the History of Medicine provide stipends of up to $5,000 to support travel, lodging, and incidental expenses for a flexible period between June 1, 2012 and May 31, 2013. Besides conducting research, the fellow will submit a report on the results of his/her residency and may be asked to present a seminar or lecture at the Countway Library. The fellowship proposal should demonstrate that the Countway Library has resources central to the research topic. Preference will be given to applicants who live beyond commuting distance of the Countway. The application, outlining the proposed project (proposal should not exceed five pages), length of residence, materials to be consulted, and a budget with specific information on travel, lodging, and research expenses, should be submitted, along with a curriculum vitae and two letters of recommendation, by February 1, 2012. Applications should be sent to: Countway Fellowships, Center for the History of Medicine, Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine, 10 Shattuck Street, Boston, MA 02115. The appointment will be announced by March 15, 2012.

The Boston Medical Library’s Abel Lawrence Peirson Fund provides support for the fellowship program.
Jack Eckert
Public Services Librarian
Center for the History of Medicine
Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine
10 Shattuck Street
Boston, MA 02115
617.432.6207

Osler Library Research Travel Grant

The Osler Library Research Travel Grant is endowed through the generosity of graduates of the Class of Medicine of 1936, and is supported by the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University. The Osler Library of the History of Medicine at McGill University sponsors a travel grant, designed to assist scholars who need to travel to and establish temporary residence in Montreal in order to use the resources of the Library.

The grant is available to historians, physicians and to those interested in the arts and humanities of medical history. It carries an award of $1,500 (Canadian), and must be held from 2-4 weeks during the calendar year of 2012. $2,000 will be made available to those requiring 4 weeks to complete their research.
Applicants should fill in the Osler Library Travel Grant Application Form at http://www.mcgill.ca/library/library-using/branches/osler-library/grant/ and send it to the address specified.

The applications are considered by a Committee which gives preference to specific and clearly described projects. The deadline for the 2012 grant applications is December 31, 2011, and candidates will be informed of the results early in 2012.

Requests for further information should be addressed to:

Sonnedecker Visiting Scholar Grants

Assistance for short-term historical research related to the history of pharmacy, including the history of drugs, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is available periodically. Historians, pharmacists, and other scholars working in the field (of any nationality) may apply for the next available Sonnedecker Grant for Visiting Research in the History of Pharmacy. The program provides assistance for travel, maintaining temporary residence in Madison, and meeting research expenses associated with utilizing the collections.

A brochure is available on request that describes the pharmaco-historical collections, which have been developed in Madison during more than a century by the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Wisconsin Historical Society, and the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy. Printed sources emphasize pharmaceutical literature of Western Europe and the United States, from the Renaissance to the present day. Manuscript sources represent mainly American pharmacy, from the late nineteenth century to the present day. These resources are reinforced by collections of comparable importance in the history of medicine and the history of science.

At least $2,000 becomes available annually to defray part of the expenses of a recipient, for whatever period of residence is appropriate. Grants are made throughout the year on the basis of the merit of previous historical work and on the appropriateness of historical resources on the University of Wisconsin campus to the research proposed.

TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION:
Dr. Gregory J. Higby, Executive Director American Institute of the History of Pharmacy Rennebohm Hall, 777 Highland Ave. Madison, Wisconsin 53705-2222 (phone: 608/262-5378)
email: VisitingScholar@aihp.org
www.aihp.org

The Center for Historical Research Fellowships on theme: “Health, Disease, and Environment in World History.”

The state, environment and disease, and the relationship of race, poverty, and inequality to disease

The Center for Historical Research brings together faculty, students, and the general public to examine the historical foundation and development of critical issues of global importance. The Center offers resident fellowships for senior and junior faculty, as well as those completing dissertations. We also invite members of the academic community and independent scholars to make presentations at our seminars.

The 2011-2013 CHR Program is exploring the problem of “Health, Disease, and Environment in World History.” All human groups have modified their environments and battled endemic and epidemic diseases. Societies have collapsed due to environmental degradation or pandemics. We will examine many of the key issues and events in the interaction of peoples with their planet from the Ancient World to the
present. This year (2011-2012) we are exploring demographic transitions and epidemiology in history. The 2012-2013 program will focus on the state, environment and disease, and the relationship of race, poverty, and inequality to disease. We are open to scholars from any discipline, and we are interested in exploring these issues on global, regional, and local levels.

Application information for fellowships can be found on our website, http://chr.osu.edu/, and are due by March 15, 2012. Those interested in making presentations at the seminars should contact the CHR director, John Brooke, at osuchr@osu.edu. Visit the website at http://chr.osu.edu/

Center for the History of Family Medicine Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine

The Center for the History of Family Medicine (CHFM) is proud to announce its second annual Fellowship in the History of Family Medicine. Interested family physicians, other health professionals, historians, scholars, educators, scientists and others are invited to apply.

The successful applicant will be awarded a fellowship grant in an amount of up to $1,500 to support travel, lodging and incidental expenses relating to conducting research on a project of their choosing dealing with any aspect on the history of General Practice, Family Practice, or Family Medicine in the United States. The fellowship will be awarded directly to the individual applicant and not to the institution where he or she may be employed.

The deadline to apply is Friday, March 30, 2012. All applications will be reviewed in April, with the Fellowship award announced by May 31, 2012.

Complete fellowship rules, application forms and instructions are available online through the Center’s website at the following link:

http://www.aafpfoundation.org/online/foundation/home/programs/center-history/fellowship.html

Or, for more information, please contact:

Don Ivey, MPA
Manager, Center for the History of Family Medicine E-mail: chfm@aafp.org

The CHFM serves as the principal resource center for the collection, conservation, exhibition and study of materials relating to the history of Family Medicine in the United States. The Center is located at the national headquarters of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) in Leawood, Kansas and is part of the non-profit AAFP Foundation.

For more information on the Center, contact Center staff via telephone at 1-800-274-2237 (ext. 4420 or 4422), via fax at (913) 906-6095, or via e-mail at chfm@aafp.org or visit us on the web at www.aafpfoundation.org/chfm

The Eugene W. J. Pearce, M.D., and Lunetta A. Pearce, M.D. Fellowship in the History of Medicine

The Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Kansas City, KS invites applications for (2) fellowships that will utilize the varied collections housed in the Archives and the Clendening History of Medicine Library. The fellowship honors long-time departmental supporters, Eugene W. J. Pearce, M.D., and Lunetta A. Pearce, M.D., and is open to faculty researchers, independent scholars, graduate students who are ABD, and post-doctoral scholars pursuing advanced scholarship.

Fellowships are granted for a period of two to four weeks. The amount of the fellowships will be $500.00 per week for 2-4 weeks, with a maximum of $2,000.00, to cover expenses, with an additional one-time travel stipend of $500 for scholars from outside of the Kansas City area.

Nancy Hulston, Director of Archives
History and Philosophy of Medicine Department
University of Kansas Medical Center
Email: nhulston@kumc.edu
Visit the website at http://www3.kumc.edu/historyofmed/fellow.html
The University invites applications for a doctoral studentship funded by a Wellcome strategic award in history of medicine. We seek outstanding candidates whose research would fall within the theme ‘Generation to Reproduction’.

Possible areas for doctoral projects include, but are not limited to:

- patient–practitioner relations around fertility and other encounters that framed the generative body;
- the influence of diseases, including venereal diseases, on reproductive behaviour and demographic patterns;
- representation and communication of generation and reproduction;
- ancient, medieval and early-modern investigations into generation;
- generation and childbirth in medical cases and casebooks;
- the reorganization of knowledge of generation/reproduction, especially in the age of revolutions;
- such sciences as embryology, obstetrics, gynaecology, evolutionary biology, reproductive physiology, genetics and developmental biology;
- reform movements around birth control, population control and sexual science;
- twentieth-century transformations in techniques, experiences and regulation;
- networks linking academic biology to reproductive medicine and public health, agriculture, especially animal breeding, and/or pharmaceutical industry;
- techniques for monitoring and manipulating pregnancy, hormones, genes, gametes and embryos, e.g., pregnancy testing, genetic screening, in vitro fertilization and embryo transfer;
- sexology, psychology and psychoanalysis, including social and psychological practices for making babies and families.

The three-year studentship pays a generous stipend plus University and College fees at the home rate only. Candidates will usually be expected to hold a Master's in the history of medicine or with strong emphasis on the history of medicine.

Informal inquiries may be made to the award holder with the most relevant interests.

Formal applications should be submitted through the relevant Department or Faculty in the usual way, indicating an interest in the studentship. The **deadline for applications is 15 February 2012** to be admitted in October 2012. The closing date for online applications is 1 February. However, you are strongly advised also to apply for all other funding for which you are eligible, and you will need to apply earlier than this if you wish to be considered by the Cambridge Trusts, Arts and Humanities Research Council or Cambridge International Scholarships. Some Cambridge colleges also offer scholarships. For full information about funding, see the [University website](#) and the [University Reporter, special number 6](#). The earliest funding deadline, for applicants from the USA applying for a Gates Cambridge Scholarship, is 15 October 2011.

---

**LIBRARY, DIGITAL RESOURCES & ARCHIVE NEWS**

**Archives**

**News from the Wellcome Library**

**Historic Arabic medical manuscripts go online**
The Wellcome Library is pleased to announce the launch of **Wellcome Arabic Manuscripts Online**, a digital manuscript library created in partnership with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and King's College London Department of Digital Humanities.

This unique online resource, based on the Wellcome Library's Arabic manuscript collection, includes well-known medical texts by famous practitioners (such as Avicenna, Ibn al-Quff, and Ibn an-Nafis), lesser-known works by anonymous physicians and rare or unique copies, such as Averroes' commentaries on Avicenna's medical poetry.

Simon Chaplin, Head of the Wellcome Library: "Providing global access to our collections is at the heart of our mission to foster collaborative research, and we are delighted to see these particular treasures become freely accessible online. We are grateful to the Library of Alexandria and Kings College London, whose partnership in this project has enabled us to extend the availability of these rare materials to the countries of their origin."

Funded by the JISC and the Wellcome Trust, the Wellcome Arabic Cataloguing Partnership (WAMCP) was initiated in 2009 with the aim to make the Wellcome's Arabic manuscripts available and to establish a standard in Arabic manuscript cataloguing and display.

This began with the creation of the "cataloguing tool". A schema was adapted from the existing ENRICH schema to allow for non-Western manuscript description. The tool, the repository, and the website was developed by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina with direction from the Wellcome and King's College London team members.

**Papers of the Eugenics Society to be Digitised**

We are delighted to announce that with the kind permission of the Galton Institute, and as part of our programme to create a **Wellcome Digital Library**, the Wellcome Library will be digitising the papers of one of our most popular archive collections; the papers of the **Eugenics Society**. The collection will be digitised in full and made freely available online, subject to Data Protection and privacy issues as set out in our **access policy** (pdf). These images will enable readers to access large amounts of archive material remotely from anywhere in the world.

In order to develop this world-class digital resource access to the collection will be affected. The collection will be digitised in batches between 21st November 2011 and 26th September 2012. Please see the **archives digitisation schedule** for full details. We regret that we are unable to make any exceptions to allow individual readers access to material, and encourage readers to contact the Archives and Manuscripts team beforehand at archs+mss@wellcome.ac.uk or telephone +44 (0)20 7611 8899 to ensure that material will be available for consultation. Microfilm copies of material in the Eugenics Society collection will not be affected and will remain available for consultation. Access to this collection whilst it is being digitised will continue to be granted only once prior written permission from the **Galton Institute** has been obtained.

**Digitising the Wellcome Library’s European printed books**

- 30 -
As part of the Wellcome Digital Library pilot project, we are joining forces with ProQuest to digitise over fifteen thousand volumes from our rare book collection. They will be made available through ProQuest’s new Early European Books (EEB) database – a sister project to the long-established and successful Early English Books Online.

As its name suggests, EEB will trace the history of printing in continental Europe from its origins up to 1700. A number of other libraries have already contributed to the project, including the Kongelige Bibliotek in Copenhagen and the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze. The Wellcome Library will be contributing our entire collection of pre-1700 non-English printed books – including many rare or obscure texts on subjects ranging from alchemy to zoology, as well as some of the most spectacularly illustrated books of the period. Landmark works include the first edition of anatomist Andreas Vesalius’s De humani corporis fabrica (1543), the complete works of surgeon Ambroise Paré (c.1510-1590), Rabanus Maurus’s encyclopedia De sermonum proprietate (1467) (the medical section of which is sometimes called the first printed medical book) and a beautiful coloured copy of Hartmann Schedel’s Liber chronicarum (‘The Nuremberg Chronicle’, 1493), formerly owned by the artist William Morris (1834-1896). In addition, the project will also provide access to important continental editions of works by famous English medical authors, such as William Harvey’s seminal work on the circulation of the blood, De motu cordis (1628), which was first published in Germany.

Unlike other parts of our project, which are being fully funded by the Wellcome Library, this partnership will involve a significant investment from ProQuest. In return for access to our collection, ProQuest will make the entire collection freely available to all UK-based users, and to users in the HINARI group of developing countries. Wellcome Library members will of course have free access to the collection from anywhere in the world. In addition, ten percent of the collection – about 1,500 books – will be selected by the Wellcome Library to be made freely available to any user worldwide via the Wellcome Digital Library portal. There will be other benefits too: as part of the project, we are taking the opportunity to make sure that previously uncatalogued (and hence unavailable) material is also included, giving the new database complete coverage of our pre-1700 European holdings.

Why choose to work with a commercial partner? The Wellcome Library recognises that for some parts of our holdings, high-quality research access will depend on material being made available within bigger collections of related material. Our early European books are not only of interest to historians of medicine but also to a wider scholarly audience, for whom the ability to search across a comprehensive database rather than a subject-specific portal is important. We also recognise that a one-size-fits-all approach to book digitisation is not always best. By partnering with ProQuest, we hope that users of our collection will benefit from the ability to see works in a broader historical context, and from the development of tools such as text recognition that are adapted to the challenges of early European printing – benefits that we are unlikely to be able to replicate, at least in the short term, within our own digital library.

Available for Research: Papers of World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT)

We are delighted to announce that the papers of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT), acquired by the Wellcome Library in 2010 have been catalogued and are now available for research (SA/WFO).

The modern health profession of Occupational Therapy was conceived in the early 1910s and the subsequent world wars saw a rapid development of the profession in terms of training and practice. The WFOT archive provides a valuable insight.
into the birth and subsequent growth and evolution of this international association and of the profession between 1951 and 2007.

The papers cover the administrative history, management structure and activities of the Federation primarily through various committee reports and minutes of meetings. It also reflects the development of the WFOT through growth in membership and matters related to education of occupational therapists in member countries which was at times a challenge for some national associations with limited resources.

The collection includes a wealth of contemporary clinical information. This is primarily through sources such as papers presented at International Congresses (held every 4 years); newsletter articles on topical issues contributed by national associations on a rotational basis; and study courses held at the International Congresses. The study courses provided a means of continuing education for qualified occupational therapists.

There are also publications by the Federation which provide information on the vocation of Occupational Therapy for the public as well as guidance for members on important practical issues such as employment requirements in different countries and a code of ethics.

Membership of the WFOT grew to represent associations from 76 nations (in 2011). The collection, therefore, gives fascinating insights on the challenges faced by occupational therapists working in different countries and continents with widely varying occupational health issues ranging from multiple sclerosis to educating disabled children.

Of particular interest are the oral and poster presentations given at the International Congresses. They demonstrate the methods used to deal with a range of conditions, often using new technologies and research and in response to a rapidly changing world. As an example, presentations at one congress could vary from ‘Children who witness violence: consequences and implications for occupational therapists’, in response to the conflicts in Bosnia, Northern Ireland, and Israel; to ‘High–tech solutions for individuals with physical and visual impairments’, a review of hardware and software adaptations such as voice recognition to aid physically and visually impaired individuals (see 12th International Congress, Montreal, Canada, Book of Abstracts, SA/WFO/B/12).

The WFOT archive interlinks with other material held by the Wellcome Library, particularly on disabilities, health education, social medicine and mental health.

![Image: Care for the community. Illustration of medical care in a neighbourhood (Credit: Neil Webb / Wellcome Images R0007074).](Image)

**Newly available for research: Papers of Wellcome Museum of Medical Science**

Almost 40 boxes of additional records of the Wellcome Museum of Medical Science (WA/MMS) have recently been transferred from storage and are now catalogued and available to researchers in the Wellcome Library.

The idea for this ‘teaching museum’ was first conceived in 1914 by Sir Henry Wellcome, with the idea of supporting an increase in the knowledge around and treatment of tropical diseases. International events intervened almost immediately,
however, and the museum put itself at the service of the War Office during the entirety of World War I, offering training for troops serving abroad in tropical climates and carrying out research in different theatres of war. The museum was housed in a number of different locations in Bloomsbury during its first ten years, before finally settling in 183 Euston Road in purpose built facilities. Following serious damage to the museum of the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene during World War II (the Wellcome collection had been dismantled and put into storage when the Blitz began) the museum held a unique position, and expanded to around 80 bays of material on a number of different subjects. Success could be read in attendance figures, which rose from 9,000 a year in the 1930s to over 16,000 a year by the late 1970s: remarkable when you consider that admittance to the museum was through application only and that it was never open to general admission.

The exhibits and display panels were designed to educate specialists in the field of tropical disease and medicine and to teach the latest techniques in diagnosis and prevention. The staff were not initially museum professionals, rather scientists who later acquired curatorial skills, but they did become involved in the developing field of museum studies, contributing to the development of professional training and techniques. One of the first curators, S. H. Daukes, introduced a revolutionary (during the 1920s) visual teaching method which formed the basis of the display panels, and he later wrote a book detailing the method and its implementation in the museum. Experimental methods in displaying specimens, e.g. encasing them in Perspex, were also developed and written up for inclusion in professional journals.

The records in this collection consist of administrative papers relating to the museum’s day to day activities between 1914 and 1989. They include general correspondence files; the papers of the museum curators; details of specimens; records of staff research interests and lecturing work and material relating to the provision of medical education, and how medical museums and higher education institutions across the world collaborated to further this aim. There are also guide books, visitor books and photographs of the museum’s exhibits, specimens, staff and facilities over a number of years.

The museum eventually closed in the 1980s, but it is fondly remembered by many of its former staff and visitors, and we still receive enquiries about it. We hope that these, and other researchers, will find much of interest in these newly-opened records.

For regular updates on the work of the Wellcome Library, follow our Blog:
http://wellcomelibrary.blogspot.com or Twitter:
http://twitter.com/wellcomelibrary

Ross MacFarlane
Research Officer
Wellcome Library
r.macfarlane@wellcome.ac.uk
The last few weeks have seen two major collaborative projects in the field of midwifery archives come to fruition, opening up exciting new avenues for research and exploration.

Thanks to the Wellcome Library’s own partnership with the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) and the generous support of the ICM for the cataloguing of its archive, this has now been completed and the material is fully accessible to researchers. Further details about this collection are available in a separate blog post.

On 4th November 2011 an event was also held at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) to mark the re-launch of the library and archive collections of the Royal College of Midwives (RCM) which are now co-located with the RCOG’s own archive and heritage collections at the RCOG’s headquarters at 27 Sussex Place, London. As highlighted by several speakers at the launch, anyone with even a passing awareness of the history of maternity care in this country will realise that the relationship between the two sets of professionals represented by these bodies has not always run smoothly and that childbirth has always been a highly-contested area, medically, socially, culturally and historiographically. This makes it all the more to be applauded that the RCM and the RCOG have shown the necessary vision to work together to secure a future for their heritage collections. We hope that some of our own users will support the venture by taking a pleasant stroll across Regent’s Park to consult them.

To give you a flavour, an outline catalogue of the RCM archive is now available on-line. There are organisational records going back to the foundation in 1881 of the Matron’s Aid Society. In addition, uniforms, badges, instruments and other objects, photographs, posters and the papers of individual midwives such as case registers, notebooks, and diaries give an insight into the work and experiences of midwives during the 20th century. Printed collections include a complete set of Nursing Notes and Midwives Chronicle. There are obvious synergies with the material held in the Wellcome Library, such as the papers of Rosalind Paget, who was heavily involved with the then Midwives Institute, and which include material relating to the running of the journal and the company Nursing Notes Ltd.

The RCM heritage collections can now be consulted alongside those of the RCOG which include its own institutional records, the personal papers of obstetricians and gynaecologists, and records of related organisations such as the Women's Visiting Gynaecological Club and the Royal Maternity Charity. The College also houses a collection of obstetric, midwifery, surgical and gynaecological instruments and artefacts and around 2000 rare books, including multiple editions of all the major works in the area, such as the obstetric atlases of Smellie and Hunter, and runs of clinical reports from maternity hospitals.

We have already noticed a growing interest in the history of midwifery, including from our friends at de partu, and hope that access to these major collections will give a further impetus to this trend. Jenny Haynes, See http://www.wellcomelibrary.blogspot.com/.

The Medical Heritage Library (MHL) is a digital curation collaborative among some of the world's leading medical libraries. The collection resides at the Internet Archive (http://www.archive.org/details/medicalheritage). The MHL promotes free and open access to quality historical resources in medicine. Our goal is to provide the means by which readers and scholars across a multitude of disciplines can examine the interrelated nature of
medicine and society, both to inform contemporary medicine and strengthen understanding of the world in which we live.

**Activities:** "Resources." ([http://www.medicalheritage.org/?p=720](http://www.medicalheritage.org/?p=720)). A new page on the MHL blog to help you find research tools, connect with other digital humanities folks online, and find new collections of material.

**Digital Highlights:** "Home Health Care for All." ([http://www.medicalheritage.org/?p=726](http://www.medicalheritage.org/?p=726)). Text designed to provide allopathic and homeopathic home health care tips in the 1890s.


**Contact the MHL:**

**Email:**
medicaleheritage@gmail.com

**Website:**
www.medicalheritage.org

**Internet Archive collection:**
http://www.archive.org/details/medicalheritagelibrary

Hanna Clutterbuck
Archives Assistant,
Hanna_Clutterbuck@hms.harvard.edu

---

**The Lloyd Library and Museum**

The Magic and Myth of Alchemy


was created in honor of the International Year of Chemistry, an event celebrated by chemists and chemistry associations throughout 2011. While the Lloyd does not hold the most ancient treatises from Asia or the Middle East, the Lloyd holds a wealth of materials from the Early Modern and later periods, along with translations and later editions of some of the earlier volumes. A quick search in the Lloyd's online catalog yields approximately 140 titles pertaining to that topic in some fashion, dating from 1544 to 2010. The collection includes the works of Paracelsus, Maier, Glauber, Hermes Trismegistus, and that alchemist made even more famous through a mention in the Harry Potter (tm) series, Nicholas Flamel.

The alchemical works have been used for a variety of reasons, from the inspiration for creating artwork to study by university students pursuing the topic academically. But, you might ask yourself, why would a primarily medicinal botany library have such a sizeable collection of alchemical volumes? First, the collection is not only eclectic, but also consists of many topics related to natural science and its history, including chemistry. Another reason for the alchemical resources relates directly back to the library's founders and their many interests. John Uri Lloyd, in particular, did a great deal of chemical research, taught chemistry, and invented his own cold still. His interest in chemistry and alchemy even extended to his fiction. The first novel John Uri Lloyd wrote, *Etidorhpa*, included references to alchemical themes; and, upon examining many of these resources, one can find notes written by him in the margins of several indicating his use of these books while writing that novel.

To learn more about the Lloyd Library and Museum, please visit [www.lloydlibrary.org](http://www.lloydlibrary.org).

Maggie Heran, MLS, Executive Director
Lloyd Library and Museum
Historical Research Center for the Natural Health Movement
917 Plum Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
mheran@lloydlibrary.org

---

**Re-Ron**

Thousands of recently declassified documents from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library are now available online at [www.thereaganfiles.com](http://www.thereaganfiles.com). The website is freely accessible, and modelled after the work of the National Security Archive. Document sets include NSC/NSPG meeting minutes; letters between President Reagan and Brezhnev, Andropov, Chernenko and
Gorbachev; the Strategic Defense Initiative; the Falklands Crisis; and many more topics.

The website was created by Jason Saltoun-Ebin, editor of The Reagan Files: The Untold Story of Reagan’s Top-Secret Efforts to Win the Cold War.

Jason Saltoun-Ebin
University of California, Santa Barbara
Email: jasonebin@gmail.com
Visit the website at http://www.thereaganfiles.com

WEBSITES

History of Medicine in Southeast Asia

HOMSEA is pleased to announce that its website is now live: http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/hist/homsea/index.html.

Please visit us for information, events, and contacts in this important and rapidly-expanding field. Don't forget that our next meeting will be held in Solo (Surakarta), Indonesia, 2-5 July 2012: http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/hist/homsea/conference.html.

For further information about HOMSEA please contact: homsea@gmail.com.

Posted by Prof. Hal Cook
John F. Nickoll Professor of History
Brown University
Providence, RI 02912 USA
Harold_Cook@brown.edu

Blind and Sighted Pioneer Teachers in 19th century China and India

A revised edition of “Blind and Sighted Pioneer Teachers in 19th century China and India” is now open online, in the library of the Independent Living Institute, www.independentliving.org/docs7/miles201104.html (and pdf)

This more detailed account introduces blind and sighted men and women who developed education and employment for blind people in China and in India from the 1830s onward, and whose pioneering efforts have disappeared from later accounts of blind people’s history. The revised text has been online for some months now, but recently it became possible to insert a couple of pictures, showing the two outstanding blind teachers, the Indian: Asho (Bibi Ayesha) and Chinese: ‘Agnes Gutzlaff’. Those who are acquainted with my historical stuff will know that I very seldom use any graphics – but it’s a great pleasure to have these two blind young women online pictorially, both of them ‘texting’ with the new information technology of their time - not electronic texting, but using their hands to read embossed script! ;)

The research behind their stories, and those of some other pioneers, has continued since the mid-1990s. An early version was on ERIC, and a revision of that appeared online at the History of Education site at the University of Nijmegen for about eight years, until that institution was taken over and its sites were closed. (Half of the material also appeared in my phd thesis in 1999).

During the past decade, a vast amount of new genealogical information became available, so it has also been possible to give more biographical details of several of the pioneer teachers, and fill in more evidence of their background. Does it help in understanding the development of blind education in India, to know that the father of one of the better-known teachers ran a thriving gunpowder factory in south-east England? (I don’t know… but that’s what he did, and three of his daughters went to the Punjab, one ran a health clinic and two worked with blind women. One of the pioneers in Shanghai was also the father of a deaf son, one of the earliest deaf people to become an ordained minister in the US. Is that of any significance? Readers can make up their own minds…)

We acknowledge the assistance of Adolf Ratzka (director) and Miles Goldstick (webmaster) at the Independent Living Institute, in republishing this fascinating material, and helping to restore credit for their work to some remarkable women and men who were casually elbowed out of later historical accounts.

In the tradition of the Dissertation Reviews project, the new site will feature friendly, non-critical overviews of recently defended, unpublished dissertations in Science Studies writ large. Our Science Studies Editor is Leon Rocha, who is Research Fellow in History and Philosophy of Science at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and an Affiliated Researcher at Needham Research Institute, Cambridge.

Approximately 20 dissertations are currently under review, with more to come. If you are interested in reviewing for the new site, or wish to suggest a dissertation for review, please contact us at dissertationreviews@gmail.com

For more information, please visit http://dissertationreviews.org

______________________________________

ResearchRaven

http://www.researchraven.com/

Identifies research in the History of Science, History of Medicine, and occasionally Medical Humanities categories. You can subscribe to the RSS feeds or via email to those categories (as well as anything else on) for free.

______________________________________

Nursing, History and Health Care (NHHC)

This new website provides critical historical analyses of compelling issues influencing the provision of nursing and health care to the American public. Through its insightful research from leading nursing scholars, NHHC will provide an exciting and essential new collaborative platform. Contact: nhhc@nursing.upenn.edu URL: www.nursing.upenn.edu/nhhc

______________________________________

Global Asbestos

This week EHTV(http://niche-canada.org/ehtv) continues its five-part series on the global asbestos industry boom between 1914 and 1939. The outbreak of war in Europe and the advent of aerial bombing in urban areas created a new market for the flammable mineral. In the years after the war, asbestos found its way into a number of industrial products as both a flame retardant and as insulation. This growth in demand led to an expansion of mining activities and the establishment of large, multi-national asbestos mining corporations.

To access this series, please visit the EHTV site, http://niche-canada.org/ehtv

______________________________________

Blogs

New history of US Navy medicine archives blog launched

The office's two historians and I have launched a new blog ‘Tranquillity, Solace & Mercy: The history of US Navy medicine’ at http://usstranquillity.blogspot.com/

We'll be highlighting parts of the collections of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery’s Office of Medical History as the whole collection is little known by the larger medical history community. Here’s an introductory post http://usstranquillity.blogspot.com/2011/09/introduction-and-archives-collections.html aboutthat.

Michael Rhode
Archivist / Curator
US Navy BUMED Office of Medical History
202-762-3813
michael.rhode@med.navy.mil

______________________________________

The American Foundation for the Blind has launched a blog that will highlight various documents in their archive collection, which their librarian Helen Selsdon assures us are accessible to those who use screen readers. Here is the link: http://www.afb.org/blog/blog.asp?BlogID=7&B BlogEntryID=200
**EXHIBITIONS**

**Centre for the History of Medicine and Disease**  
**Cambridge University/ Cambridge University Library**

**Books & Babies: Communicating Reproduction**  
7 July–23 December 2011  
(Closed 29 August and 12–18 September inclusive) Monday-Friday 09.00-18.00, Saturday 09.00-16.30, Sunday closed Admission Free

The London underground displays posters for fertility clinics, directed at both women and men. Picture books teach children the facts of life. We are always reading about reproduction. Reproduction also describes what communication media do — multiply images, sounds and text for wider consumption. This exhibition is about these two senses of reproduction, about babies and books, and the ways in which they have interacted in the past and continue to interact today.

Before reproduction there was generation, a broader view of how all things come into being than the fusion of egg and sperm. Before electronic media there were clay figurines, papyrus, parchment, printed books and journals. The interactions between communication media and ideas about reproduction have transformed the most intimate aspects of our lives.

‘Books and Babies’ traces these interactions from ancient fertility figures and medieval manuscripts to the birth of Louise Brown following in vitro fertilization in 1978. The media sensation that surrounded her arrival illustrates how modern reproductive ‘miracles’ have been publicised worldwide. The research with Patrick Steptoe and Jean Purdy that led Robert Edwards to win the Nobel Prize reveals the varied roles of communication within and around the laboratory.

The exhibition opens with a chronological story of the books and other objects that have been central to communicating reproduction from ancient times to the present day. We move from theories of human generation to the modern dilemmas of reproductive choice and population control, and from handwritten documents to digital media. Other elements pursue particular themes: communication in reproductive research, the long life of a single advice manual (‘Aristotle’s Masterpiece’), the evolutionary epic of the ‘Ascent of Man’, ‘Extraordinary Births’ as news, and the rise of ‘Population Arithmetick’ For a taster:  
http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/exhibitions/Babies/

Funded by a Wellcome Trust Strategic Award in the History of Medicine on ‘Generation to Reproduction’

**EVENTS**

**Disability History Month**

In the UK from November 22nd to December 22nd is Disability History Month. The dates intentionally include the UN’s International Day of People with Disabilities (Dec. 3rd) and International Human Rights Day (December 8th). The 2011 theme is “Celebrating Our Struggle for Equality”

The central platform to; find out what events are going on around the UK and access a number of resources http://ukdisabilityhistorymonth.com/

**Disability History Month Scotland. 22 November to 22 December.**

Following the successful launch of UK Disability History Month in 2010, a number of Disabled Peoples Organisations felt that there was the need to have a specific time in the year when the history of our struggle for equality and human rights in Scotland could be focused on. Disability History Month Scotland will run from 22nd November to 22nd December 2011. This covers HIV/AIDS Day (1st December), International Day of People with Disabilities (3rd Dec.) and International Human Rights Day (8th December).

Iain Hutchison, Board Member of the Disability History Society and Reviews Editor for HI-Disability will be taking part in the launch of Disability History Month Scotland on 22 November.
A key event in the programme is the Celebrating our Struggle for Equality Conference on 3 December at Moray House, School of Education, University of Edinburgh. At the Conference, workshops will be included as follows:

**Workshops - Session 1**

**Workshop 1** - Disabled Peoples History through Drama  
**Facilitator** - Gavin Crichton, Artistic Director, ACTive Inquiry  
Please note that this workshop runs over two sessions, morning and afternoon.

**Workshop 2** - Disabled People in 19th Century Scotland  
**Facilitator** - Iain Hutchison, Researcher, University of Glasgow. Member of the Board of the Disability History Association and Reviews Editor for H-Disability

**Workshop 3** - A History of Disabled People as Activists  
**Facilitators** - Kirsten McLean, Oor Mad History and Bill Scott, InclusionScotland

**Workshops - Session 2**

**Workshop 1** - Disabled Peoples History through Drama  
**Workshop 4** - Disability and Identity  
**Facilitators** - Rob Murthwaite, Senior Lecturer and Artist (London Metropolitan University) and Alice Brown, Senior Youth Worker, Scotland Yard

**Workshop 5** - From Super Heroes to Super Crips  
**Facilitators** - George Lamb, Black Triangle and Roddy Slorach, Disabled People Against Cuts

**Workshop 6** - The Rise of the Eugenicists  
**Facilitators** - John McArdle, Black Triangle and Sasha Callaghan, TUC Disability Committee

For more details and to book a place:  
http://disabilityhistorymonthscotland.org/

---

**PRIZE WINNERS**

**2010 Roy Porter essay prize winner**

The committee that judges the Roy Porter Prize for the best graduate student essay for the Society for the Social History of Medicine selected Seth LeJacq's (Institute for the History of Medicine, John Hopkins University, USA) essay, "Was to be Cut": Resistance to Surgery in Early Modern British Domestic Healing", as the 2010 winner of the Roy Porter Essay Prize Competition. The committee was impressed with the quality and scope of the article. Lutz Sauerteig

---

**INTERESTING BOOKS**

**Physick and the family**  
*Health, medicine and care in Wales, 1600–1750*  
Alun Withey  
216x138mm 256pp  
hb 9780719085468 30 November 2011 £60.00  
3 b&w illustrations

Physick and the family offers new insights into the early modern experience of illness, medicine and care, through a study of the medical history of seventeenth-century Wales. Withey draws upon an extensive body of largely unexplored source material, as well as a number of different approaches and methodologies, to make a significant contribution to many areas of debate in medical history. This innovative study will speak to anybody with an interest in the social history of the early modern period. How did people obtain and disseminate medical knowledge in early modern Britain? What was the impact of literacy? How was this further affected by a language barrier? How well equipped was the early modern household to prepare medicines? Likewise, who was responsible for caring for the sick, both in the home and the community? In addressing such questions, this book ranges across important
themes such as literacy and language, the spread of medical knowledge, domestic medicine and the rural medical marketplace. Using a wealth of sources from probate inventories to parish records, diaries to domestic remedy collections it recovers the hitherto neglected medical worldview of the 'ordinary' person. This book will appeal to a broad spectrum of academics and scholars both in medical history and in social history.

**Disclaimer**

Any views expressed in this Gazette are those of the Editors or the named contributor; they are not necessarily those of the Executive Committee or general membership. While every care is taken to provide accurate and helpful information in the Gazette, the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the Chair of its Executive Committee and the Editor of the Gazette accept no responsibility for omissions or errors or their subsequent effects. Readers are encouraged to check all essential information appropriate to specific circumstances.

The Society for the Social History of Medicine is a charitable body registered in the U.K. with the registration number 27841

Please visit the SSHM Website at [http://www.sshm.org](http://www.sshm.org)