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**Cover Star:** *Urinostomy: woman patient propped up in bed; physician and attendants. Dissection of female corpse; the dissector disturbed, 13<sup>th</sup> century. Credit: Bodleian Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts MS Ashmole 399, f. 034r. See p. 18 for the Call for Papers for 'Maladies, Miracles and Medicine'*

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## Welcome to the Gazette.

*The variety and number of Meeting Reports in this issue attests to the number of important events that have taken place since our last issue. Manchester hosted the largest HSTM gathering ever, the EAHMH arrived in Lisbon to discuss risk (also the theme of a conference at Oxford Brookes), and a landmark event in Johannesburg launched Medical Humanities in South Africa.*

*With the beginning of the new academic year now in full swing, see pp.21-23 for some highlights of the research seminar circuit.*

*As ever, SSHM welcomes applications for support with both individual student bursaries and event funding.*

*More information is on the SSHM website:  
[www.sshm.org/content/conference-funding](http://www.sshm.org/content/conference-funding)  
[www.sshm.org/content/conference-bursaries-students](http://www.sshm.org/content/conference-bursaries-students)*

*Katherine.*

### **ROY PORTER ESSAY PRIZE (2012) WINNER**

**We are pleased to announce that the winner of the Roy Porter Essay Prize for 2012 is: Caitlin Mahar (University of Melbourne) for her essay 'Easing the Passing: R. V. Adams and Terminal Care in Postwar Britain'.  
Congratulations, Caitlin!**

## 2012 AGM MINUTES SUMMARY

**Held at Escola Nacional de Saúde Publica, Lisbon, Room 1A31 on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2013 as part of the 2013 conference of the EAHMH.**

In her Chair's report, Gayle Davis announced that the assets and membership of the Society are in good shape, and thanked EC members for all their hard work on behalf of the SSHM. The biennial conference clearly serves as an incentive for membership and Matthew Smith, the publicity officer, is working hard to resolve any decline in numbers. As the assets of the Society increased during 2012, decisions were made on how to spend this money. The focus of this spending has been on student bursaries and support for conference organization. We attract more students than senior members and we want to capitalize on this by providing more opportunities in the form of events and prizes, in addition to extending bursaries to postdoctoral scholars. Plans are afoot to launch an additional prize to generate interest and membership, especially at an early stage in students' education.

Gayle also discussed a successful year for the journal and the book series. Ian Burney is standing down as co-editor of *Social History of Medicine*, to be replaced shortly by Professor Trish Skinner, University of Swansea, a historian of medieval medicine.

Conferences keep us particularly busy. The SSHM is especially interested in early career and thematic symposia. Erica Charters (conference co-ordinator) has tightened up the application process. Applications to access our financial resources are welcomed and we are particularly keen to support early career scholars, who also benefit by being able to list these small amounts of money in their CVs. The SSHM 2012 Conference was superbly organized by Colin Jones and his team at Queen Mary, University of London. The attendees were extremely complementary about the conference with regard to Colin's

team, the virtual issue of *Social History of Medicine*, and the new 'meet the editors' and 'meet the postgrads' sessions. Our social networking activities escalated thanks to Victoria Bates' hard work.

Finally, Gayle was pleased to announce the winner of the 2012 Roy Porter Essay Prize. There were 13 applications and the winner is Caitlin Mahar (University of Melbourne). The title of the prize-winning essay is: 'Easing the Passing: R v. Adams and Terminal Care in Postwar Britain'. Although recent recipients of the prize have been international, two commendable Britain-based scholars have been encouraged to submit their papers to *Social History of Medicine*. Gayle asked Society members to encourage their students to enter. The essay should be of a standard where it would withstand the peer review process.

In his report of the journal's activities, Pratik Chakrabarti thanked Ian Burney for his work and welcomed Trish Skinner to the editorial team. Now that the backlog has been reduced thanks to the increased number of issues, proposals for special issues are welcomed again. The other new project is virtual issues: collecting articles and book reviews on a particular theme from past *SHM* issues and providing free online access for a limited period. Gayle recorded her thanks to the editorial team, and in particular to Ian for his term of office, wishing him well for the future.

Keir Waddington summarized the activities of the series editors. The Pickering and Chatto series was launched in 2011. 2012 was a quiet year but 2013 promises to be a bumper year. Keir is looking forward to announcing all of the books which will have appeared in 2013 during the AGM in Oxford in 2014. Keir continues to be astounded at the quick publication of Pickering and Chatto volumes. Gayle thanked Keir and David Cantor for their work in supporting edited volumes and particularly early career historians.

Gayle summarized the conference report on Erica Charter's behalf. The events we have supported represent our broad interests: 'Learning from Lister' organized by

King's College London, the Royal College of Surgeons and the Royal Society, a two-day symposium on the work of Bob Woods, held at the University of Liverpool, a one-day postgraduate workshop, 'Publishing and Funding for Early Career Health Historians' at Glasgow Caledonian University, and the SSHM 2012 Conference, 'Emotions, Health and Wellbeing' at Queen Mary, University of London. Janet Greenlees (postgraduate affairs co-ordinator) reported on the successful workshop on publishing and funding in the challenging world of academia. Janet is organizing another event for the day before the SSHM 2014 Conference in Oxford and she has a team of postgraduate students who are contributing and suggesting themes for the day.

Only one committee member has retired this year (Cathy McClive). Katherine Foxhall had been co-opted to edit the *Gazette* in November 2012 but was now formally elected at the AGM. Michael Brown was newly elected.

The next AGM will be held at the SSHM Biennial Conference in Oxford in July 2014.

Rosemary Wall, SSHM Secretary



## MEETING REPORTS

### **24TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND MEDICINE (ICHSTM): 'KNOWLEDGE AT WORK'**

**University of Manchester, 21-28 July 2013**  
<http://www.ichstm2013.com/>

Not even the extraordinary occurrence of lightning striking Piccadilly station could unsettle the remarkable organization of the 24th International Congress of the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, 21-28 July 2013 at Manchester, UK. The University of Manchester's Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine worked under the auspices and sponsorship of the Division of History of Science and Technology

of the International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science and the British Society for the History of Science, with the aid of the International Programme Committee (chair: Peter Bowler) and the National Executive Committee (chair: Frank James, to create an event that was at once broad in scope and rich in detail. With generous funding from the Wellcome Trust, Visit Manchester, and a host of societies including SSHM (<http://www.ichstm2013.com/sponsors/>), and supported by countless volunteers, the event hosted 411 sessions in 23 parallel tracks attended by 1758 participants.

The congress was surrounded by an atmosphere of excitement, and a readiness to tackle difficult and controversial issues. Hasok Chang's "deliberately provocative" keynote speech titled 'Putting science back into the history of science' warned historians of science not to allow their discipline to become impoverished by a habitual dismissal of the "contents" of science. Debunking false dichotomies, such as that between social/cultural and intellectual history, or theory and practice, he called for an approach that takes past knowledge and expertise seriously, and does not stop short of using history to enrich present science education and knowledge. Such a concept of content could also enrich the study of context; "content," Chang concluded astutely, "is the new context."

The congress programme reflected the BSHS President's vision of breadth. 1400 papers presented during the 7-day conference realized the conference's theme in a multitude of ways. The role of controversy, for instance, was revisited in a session titled Creating facts: disputed knowledge-claims in the nineteenth century. Commenting on the contributors' explorations of contestation in knowledge production, Michael Gordin concluded that the key to understanding the nature and process of consensus formation was often to appreciate how questions, rather than answers, were agreed upon. Other sessions explored the role of work and trained expertise in the activities of scientific disciplines. Projit Mukharji's analysis of self-

trained forensic handwriting experts in colonial Bengal emphasized distinct clusters of expertise forming a multitude of "forensic cultures" within a complexly composed discipline.

In the same session (Spaces and traces: global takes on forensic investigation in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries) Neil Pemberton's memorable paper on English bloodhounds and canine forensics in Britain and the US brought the role of animals to the fore. This is an exciting new focus of historical scholarship, and animal questions received special attention in a session co-organized by Peter Koolmees and Abigail Woods. The session challenged historians of science to look "beyond the animal model" and take animals seriously as an object of inquiry in its own right. Woods explored animal pathology in mid-nineteenth century Britain, arguing that animals formed an integral part of pathological activity and prompting historians to rethink the term "comparative pathology." The session also connected with another exciting new area of inquiry, the history of emotions. Francis Neary offered a fascinating reflection on Charles Darwin's addition of emotions in animals such as jealousy, suspicion, revenge, and humor, to the second edition to the *Descent of Man*. Emotions were also the focus of an interdisciplinary symposium that encouraged historians to take a more active role in understanding how scientific investigations of the emotions were put to work.

In addition to new themes and original approaches, Congress participants experimented with innovative modes of presentation and perception to blur the boundaries between the strictly academic and the "fringe" part of the congress, truly creating an experience for all senses. Participants delighted in a theatrical re-enactment of a Victorian séance and a Victorian science spectacle, tasted the components of eighteenth century beer substitutes in James Sumner's public talk, embarked on a Manchester smell walk, touched a mouse dusting chamber model in

Jessica van Horssen's presentation on asbestos experimentation, and listened to the spectacular sounds of the multimedia Turing opera.

For a congress that explored the interrelationship between science, medicine and technology, Manchester was more than a suitable location. The Local Organising Committee under the chairmanship of Jeff Hughes and James Sumner placed the event firmly within the rich industrial, scientific, medical and social history Manchester has to offer.

A striking feature of the congress was the intensity with which it was documented on social media. Over 190 congress participants were listed as possessing Twitter accounts, and the *ichstm* hashtag "trended" during several days of the congress. ICHSTM presentations also received attention beyond the confines of Manchester. *The Daily Mail* featured Mauricio Sanchez Menchero's and Teresa Ordorika's presentation on women and chocolate, while Jordan Bimm's fascinating account of the anthropomorphization of the "space monkeys" Able and Baker made the pages of the *LA Times*.

The congress succeeded spectacularly in reflecting the broader current excitement about the history of science, medicine and technology, while at the same time creating new enthusiasm for the field.

*Lisa Haushofer*

*Department of the History of Science, Harvard University*

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### **The 24th International Congress for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine (ICHSTM) invaded the University of Manchester, 21-28 July.**

According to its organisers, it was the largest meeting of historians of science, technology, and medicine ever with 1,758 registered delegates, over 400 sessions, and (at times) as many as twenty-four parallel sessions. The Congress was also the largest meeting ever hosted by the University of Manchester, according to the President and Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Dame

Nancy Rothwell. Professor Hasok Chang, President of the British Society for the History of Science, opened the Congress with his keynote speech: 'Putting Science Back into the History of Science'. With perspicacity and good humour he addressed a controversial issue in the state of the field ultimately calling for more 'conscious deliberation and debate' about why we do history of science, technology and medicine for the health of our field. Historians of science, he pled, should approach science 'with understanding and respect, even with love, but more so with critical confidence and independence.' Taking science seriously 'both as a socio-cultural phenomenon and as an epistemic practice', he argued, will allow the history of science to flourish into a mature discipline.

Nearly 1,400 papers and countless special sessions, excursions, and fringe activities followed the plenary. With a meeting of such proportions it is an impossible task to fully encapsulate the spirit of the Congress. To give a sample of the scholarship at work, the subject matters addressed ranged from the history of mining in China to Leonardo da Vinci's scientific contributions; from Greco-Roman astronomy to climate change debates; from medical practices in modern South Asia to non-western early-modern mathematics; and much, much more. All panels within the Congress were tasked with adhering to a theme: knowledge at work. Each investigated how scientific, technological, and medical knowledge practices have changed over time and around the globe, from broad-based debates to more concentrated issues. From this a rich plethora of research and debate arose. The Congress fringe was no less impressive: The Turing Machine Opera made its UK debut, the Women in Science Research Network officially launched, 'beer doctoring' was demonstrated and a beer festival well-attended, the first ever HSTM Bright Club comedy gig performed, Jodrell Bank Observatory and Chatsworth House (a horticultural and architectural gem) visited, and many more impressive, diverse, and eclectic events.

The academic content of the Congress, more than any other aspect, supported the aims of studying 'knowledge at work'. For example, the panel on Medicine and Colonialism (session T170) surveyed three different areas of the globe – Central Africa, Korea, and East Africa – at overlapping time periods to untangle how colonialism complicated systems of medical and scientific knowledge production. In the case of Central Africa, Markku Hokkanen highlighted how crucial it was to the British Empire to control knowledge of medicines and poisons in that region. The indigenous population long resisted sharing their knowledge with the colonisers, but the latter's commitment to wresting such knowledge away from the former demonstrates just how important it was. In the case of interwar Korea, Jane Sung Hae Kim demonstrated how the Japanese imperial government in conjunction with the League of Nations Health Organisation shaped and controlled knowledge of leprosy in that region. Thus, Kim showed that colonial medical knowledge practices were global and did not operate in regional vacuums. Finally, Anna Greenwood and Harshad Topiwala argued that the British Colonial Medical Service in Kenya came to exclude Indian doctors by the 1920s in an effort to further control and dominate the wielding of medical knowledge. This effort served to obscure the important historical role that Indians played in the history of medicine in the Kenyan context. This panel, like all others at ICHSTM, showed how particular historical circumstances (in this case, colonialism) uniquely shaped how scientific knowledge was gathered, produced, and used.

For many of the delegates the most remarkable aspect of ICHSTM 2013 was unquestionably the unparalleled opportunities for socialising. Attendees were encouraged to meet colleagues, both familiar and new, in the vast number of organised and impromptu events. Scientists, historians, engineers, archivists, and students gathered together to exchange thoughts, discuss ideas, and creating new connections between individuals, groups, and institutions during

lunches, tea breaks, pub outings, and beyond. To reach even further beyond the nearly 2,000 present at the Congress, organisers encouraged the use of social media including blogging (<http://www.ichstm2013.com/blog/>), Twitter (<https://twitter.com/ichstm2013> & [#ichstm](https://twitter.com/ichstm)), and YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/user/iCHSTM2013>). Undoubtedly much will come of the innumerable links forged in Manchester this summer.

Finally, in the many conversations that transpired over those eight days in July, one thing became most apparent: the record-breaking iCHSTM 2013 had not only lived up to expectations but surpassed them. This year's organisers have set the bar high for their successors (Rio de Janeiro in summer 2017). Nonetheless, as Hasok Chang bid the crowd in his opening address, this will also undoubtedly be another tremendous occasion for 'conscious deliberation and debate' about why we do history of science, technology and medicine.

*Sarah Jane Bodell  
University of Warwick*

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## **DEINSTITUTIONALISATION AND AFTER: POST WAR PSYCHIATRY IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE**

**University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, 9-10  
May 2013.**

The University of Strathclyde hosted speakers from around the world to take part in a conference on the global impacts of deinstitutionalisation on post-war psychiatry. Organized by Despo Kritsotaki with funding from the EU Social Fund and NSRF, the event's two days provided ample time for discussion of a variety of topics and perspectives with delegates from the local area, Europe, North America, and Australia in attendance. Four panels on each day included a variety of topics, all centred around questions of the process of deinstitutionalisation. In addition to these panels, there was a special presentation of the

film *The Inmates Are Running the Asylum*, a documentary centred on a Vancouver, Canada-based radical therapy group called the Mental Patients' Association.

"The psychiatric hospital in the age of deinstitutionalisation" focused on Glasgow. Allan Beveridge and Vicky Long presented papers on mid-20<sup>th</sup> century psychiatric care in the city. Both provided fascinating insight into both the local situation of mental health care in Glasgow's history, and into the city's role in the global deinstitutionalization movement. "Understanding deinstitutionalisation" had four speakers covering a variety of international perspectives, with papers from America, Italy, Sweden and Greece. John Burnham's paper analyzed the role of consumer culture in the process of deinstitutionalisation, while Matteo Troilo looked at 20<sup>th</sup> century reform movements in Italy. Frida Wikström's paper on psychiatric space in Sweden gave insight into how deinstitutionalisation proceeded there, while Pyrros Mangos's paper, based on a study of Borderline Personality Disorder patients in Athens, questioned whether deinstitutionalisation has changed the way psychiatric patients are conceived of by the system. "Mental health care reform and the psychiatric profession" looked at the changing face of the psychiatric profession in Europe. Thomas Feeney's paper examined the role of the psychiatric profession in the reform of mental health services in Ireland. Nicolas Henckes' paper examined French 'sectorization policy' and whether the environment that necessitated it caused its frustrations, and Christof Beyer discussed the difficulties of implementing social psychiatry in the custodial mental health system of 1960s Lower Saxony. "Community mental health care" provided another international perspective. Val Harrington spoke on the successes of the Salford community mental health services, and Ebba Högström provided further insight into the Sweden community care system, especially the role of space, place and home. Yolanda Pringle's paper on psychiatry and deinstitutionalisation in Uganda was the conference's only paper

concerning Africa, or indeed the developing world, and focused on how to integrate 'western' mental health practice with the people, and how that is complicated by a post-colonial context.

The second day of the conference began with two papers on "Therapeutic spaces for children". John Stewart spoke on child guidance in 1950s Britain, which focused on preventative care and treatment in the home and the family, rather than in institutional settings. Despo Kritsotaki's paper on the child guidance movement in Greece provided an interesting contrast and further international perspective. In the second panel of the day, "Radical movements", Alexander Dunst analyzed the newsletters of radical therapy groups in the United States, as well as their role in the evolution of the radical therapy movement. Elena Trivelli's paper looked at the limits of Franco Basaglia's work in the process of deinstitutionalisation in Italy and whether or not Italy is truly deinstitutionalised, and Cheryl McGeachan's paper explored the therapeutic spaces of R.D. Laing and Aaron Esterson. The three papers in "Deinstitutionalization and its discontents in California" complemented each other. Marcia Meldrum spoke on the role of parents in advocating for their mentally ill children and for the right to support in caring for said (often adult) children; Howard Padwa presented on the 'recovery' system in Los Angeles, which focuses on providing support services to the most vulnerable homeless mentally ill; Jack Friedman spoke on the tension between conceptions of risk and stigma that come with deinstitutionalizing people with mental illness. The last panel of the conference, "Developments and unexpected turns in the history of deinstitutionalisation" focused on what happened to the spaces of the institution and the people who once inhabited them. Roslyn Burge spoke about the space of Callan Park, a former institution in Australia, and community attempts to preserve both the grounds and building. Both Diane Purvey and Deborah Thien's papers focused on the need to include survivors/consumers of

mental health services in the process of documenting the history and telling the story of the asylum. Victor Willis presented on the story of a Toronto, Canada drop in centre for people with mental illness and its struggles to be accepted by the community.

In addition to the excellent papers and opportunities to engage with fellow researchers, the city of Glasgow itself was very welcoming to the delegates, providing a civic reception on the first night of the conference. The conference dinner, held at Café Source, was wonderful, and the newly-refurbished Lord Hope Building at the University of Strathclyde, provided a comfortable and technology-friendly space. I can only hope that the connections made at the conference will carry forward and we will be able to follow up on the insights gained over those two days at future events.

*Erin J. Lux  
University of Strathclyde*

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## **PROSOPOGRAPHY AND HISTORY OF HEALTHCARE**

**Centre for the Historical Record,  
Kingston University, London, 1 June 2013**

The idea for this workshop grew out of conversations between Sue Hawkins (Kingston), Carmen Mangion (Birkbeck) and Helen Sweet (Oxford) about the growing use of prosopography in historical healthcare research. With the unfortunate mothballing of Katharine Keats-Rohan's excellent Centre for Prosopography at Oxford, there appeared to be nowhere to go to share ideas, challenges and experiences of using this approach. We decided to gauge interest in a workshop by putting out a call for papers and were amazed by the volume, quality and variety of responses.

The workshop (sponsored by the Wellcome Trust) was attended by 30 historians, archivists and PhD students, including delegates from Canada, Denmark and Russia who engaged in lively and vigorous debate throughout the day.

The first paper, from Justin Colson (University of Exeter), concerned a five-year, Wellcome-funded, prosopography project on medical practitioners in the period 1500-1715. Justin outlined the challenges the project faces, not least the definition of what constituted a medical practitioner and how this definition changed over time; and the paucity of archival sources in Ireland and Wales. The lack of official documentation on practitioners outside London is driving the search for information in less obvious sources, such as publications and probate records.

Stephen Kenny (University of Liverpool) provided a fascinating insight into medicine in the slaveholding American south. Using prosopographical techniques, he is attempting to delineate the characteristics of medicine as practiced in the US southern states in the 19th century, using local medical journals. His research is revealing networks of influence among 'deep country doctors' who can be shown to be well-connected and well-educated despite being geographically remote. Kenny also discussed the problems of sources, and the challenges of integrating data from diverse and non-standardised records.

Susanne Malchau-Dietz (Danish Deaconess Foundation) has studied Deaconess nurses in Denmark from 1863 to date. Susanne was in the enviable position of having a comprehensive set of institutional records on which to base her studies. She has been able to build an impressive database of over 1750 individual women, and is using this data to investigate the impact of deaconesses on the development of the Danish healthcare systems.

PhD student Sean Graffin (University of Ulster) presented his comparative study of nursing at two hospitals in Belfast and Glasgow in the early twentieth century. He poses questions concerned with career structures, networks of contacts etc, and outlined the problems of finding information about 'ordinary' people. To overcome such problems he uses a wide range of sources, including hospital records, nursing journals, government registers, war records etc. His challenge is to bring the information from

these diverse sources together to construct career and life trajectories for the women in his study.

The afternoon sessions took a wider view of 'healthcare'. Barry Godfrey (University of Liverpool) presented a fascinating project to recover the common health characteristics of late 19th century convicts using the prison licenses. The records provide not only weight and height data, but also details of diet whilst in prison.

Supplemented with criminal records and details of life before entering prison, 'whole life stories' can be constructed to tease out trends and commonalities among this cohort of incarcerated men and women. The results are raising interesting questions about gender.

Lisa Wynne Smith (University of Saskatchewan) is using prosopographical techniques to recreate Dr Hans Sloane's network of personal and professional contacts from his letters. She has created databases of keywords, people's names, places and illnesses to enable her to interrogate Sloane's personal and professional lives; and is experimenting with new ways of analysing and displaying networks, such as the Yifan Hu algorithm. The approach is illuminating the relative importance of certain family groups in Sloane's networks.

Two final papers were from PhD students, describing the very early stages of their projects. Julie Hipperson (Kings College London) is tracing career trajectories of women veterinarians in the 20th century, using obituaries, oral histories, diaries and surveys. She hopes to shed light on women's relative invisibility in the profession and to challenge assumptions that link women vets inevitably to small animal practice. Pavel Vasilyev (St Petersburg Institute of History of the Russian Academy of Sciences) is planning his first postdoctoral project: an investigation of early Soviet psychiatrists, focussing on their education, the development of research schools and their relationships with Soviet authorities. He is intending to use prosopographical techniques to achieve this.

Several issues recurred throughout the day:

- How can data be shared between researchers in the same field?
- How can large volumes of data be transcribed cost-effectively and efficiently? Is crowd sourcing the answer? Or volunteer groups? Do they have different management challenges?
- How can archivists help researchers locate obscure sources in their archives?
- Can qualitative methods of analysis yield as useful results as quantitative methods?
- How can technology be harnessed to address these challenges?

Attendees expressed a desire to continue these discussions and a JISC Mail list has been set up for this purpose.

MEDPROSOP@JISCMAIL.AC.UK welcomes new members with an interest in prosopography as a tool in researching history of healthcare. There will also be a page on the Centre for the Historical Record's website where abstracts of the above papers and news will be available.

(<http://fass.kingston.ac.uk/research/historical-record/>). For further information please contact Sue Hawkins:

[s.e.hawkins@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:s.e.hawkins@kingston.ac.uk) or Carmen Mangion: [c.mangion@bbk.ac.uk](mailto:c.mangion@bbk.ac.uk).

*Sue Hawkins*

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## **THERAPY & EMPOWERMENT-COERCION & PUNISHMENT: HISTORICAL & CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES ON LABOUR AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

**26-27 June 2013, St. Anne's College, Oxford**

The international research symposium, organised by Oxford Brookes University and supported by the Wellcome Trust, brought together scholars and practitioners to consider how the role of occupational therapy has evolved in various national contexts, according to prevailing social, medical and political conditions.

The first panel, chaired by Dr Yolanda Eraso (Oxford Brookes), featured papers concerning late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century work therapy in the British West Indies, India, Canada and Japan. Dr Leonard Smith (Birmingham) outlined how the therapeutic

aspects of work were sacrificed to achieve economic aims in asylums in Jamaica, Guiana and Trinidad between 1860 and 1900. Professor Waltraud Ernst (Oxford Brookes) found a similar situation in late nineteenth-century Indian asylums, where goals of self-sufficiency and desires to “combat idleness” and “prevent malingering,” were at odds with the idea of work as therapy. Kathryn McKay (Simon Fraser) described how British Columbian mental hospitals between 1885 and 1920 were keen to demonstrate that patients contributed to their care and were not a drain on society.

Professor Osamu Nakamura (Osaka) reported how, in late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century Iwakura, local families cared for mentally ill patients from the surrounding area. Unpaid patients helped families with tasks such as wood-chopping, carrying water and farming, duties which contributed to a sense of self-worth and of being part of a community. Government legislation in 1950 ended this mutually beneficial practice, and the mentally ill were hospitalised. Professor Akira Hashimoto (Aichi) outlined how work and activity programmes evolved in modern Japan from forced labour regimes before World War II to “life therapy,” a system of habit training designed to control patients, through to American-style occupational therapy in the 1960s.

The second panel, chaired by Beryl Steeden (College of Occupational Therapists), featured speakers from Germany and Austria. Dr Thomas Mueller (Ravensburg University of Ulm) reported that the aim of nineteenth-century rural asylums in Wuerttemberg was to remove the mentally ill from society, rather than offer therapy. Sonja Hinsch (Vienna) examined the goal of “betterment through forced labour” which underpinned activities in Austria’s correctional houses between the wars. Dr Monika Ankele (Hamburg-Eppendorf) cited a political motive for work at the Hamburg-Langenhorn Asylum, where patients had to produce their own food and other basic items. The Weimar government regarded work as both a right and a duty, and wished to see all patients re-integrated into full employment.

Professor Jenny Butler (Oxford Brookes) chaired the third panel. Exploring the relationship between work and health, Dr Jennifer Laws (Durham) highlighted the therapeutic effect of human relationships forged in the context of work, drawing upon Samuel Tuke’s 1813 description of the ‘hollow gardener’ at the Retreat at York, and a contemporary work project involving an unconventional practitioner named Trish. Dr

Sarah Chaney (UCL) reported that when the “malingering” diagnosis of women who self-harmed was replaced by one of “hysteria,” the notion of turning these women into “useful members of society” through work was undermined. Dr Judith Pettigrew (Limerick) noted the detrimental effects of “occupation deprivation” on patient health when overcrowding, increased security and staff shortages at the Central Criminal Lunatic Asylum in Dublin in the late nineteenth century caused the withdrawal of work therapy.

Both Professor John Hall (Oxford Brookes) and Dr Sally Denshire (Charles Sturt) outlined the social profile of the “pioneer” generation of occupational therapists, which they found to be young, white, middleclass, female and culturally privileged in both Britain and Australia. In Australia this resulted in a lack of awareness regarding the cultural appropriateness of different activities (such as expecting indigenous Australians to make Donald Duck masks), while in Britain their backgrounds tended to steer occupational therapists towards smaller private or charitable hospitals.

Leisle Ezekiel and Carol Mytton (Oxford Brookes) highlighted the discrepancy between the occupational therapists’ aim to be “person centred” and the rules and regulations limiting such treatment. Young, middle class, female occupational therapists practising thirty years ago were uncomfortable standing up for what they considered best practice. Today, other constraints, such as the political environment and competition for resources, impinge upon the ability of therapists to deliver person-centred interventions. Speaking of her experiences in Iran and Jordan, Dr Farzaneh Yazdani (Oxford Brookes) described the purpose of occupation, not as therapy or work, but as keeping patients busy in order to relieve nurses.

The symposium ended with a tour of the Dorset House Archives, based at Oxford Brookes University, by Catherine Lidbetter (Oxford Brookes University Library). Dorset House was the first school of occupational therapy in the UK, established in 1930 by Dr Elizabeth Casson, eventually becoming part of Oxford Brookes University in 1992. The archive comprises 17 shelves of books and 29 boxes containing personal papers of Dr Casson and Dorset House Principals, plus photographs, cine films and scrap books. To discover more about the Dorset House Archive visit [www.brookes.ac.uk.library](http://www.brookes.ac.uk.library) or contact [libraryenquiries@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:libraryenquiries@brookes.ac.uk).

During the two-day symposium work was described variously as therapy, punishment, a diversion, a source of a sense of purpose, a means of controlling patients and a means of achieving economic self-sufficiency in asylums. While work in asylums has not always been voluntary, "occupation deprivation" can be detrimental to a patient's health. Speakers stressed the need for cultural sensitivity, the importance of human relationships in the context of work and the influence of politics and budget constraints.

*Jane Freebody  
Oxford Brookes University*

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## **EAHMH CONFERENCE: 'RISK AND DISASTER IN MEDICINE AND HEALTH', Lisbon, 4-7 September 2013.**

The European Association for the History of Medicine and Health Conference 2013 was launched in the palatial surroundings of Lisbon City Hall, where Laurinda Abreu introduced an extensive programme of research based on the theme 'Risk and Disaster in Medicine and Health'.

Following Javier Moscoso's (CSIC) keynote speech on the History of Medicine on Display, Thursday's Parallel Sessions began. In Session 1, a panel on 'Prevention and Recovery' opened with Hannah Newton (University of Cambridge) whose paper shed light on historical concepts, which have defined disease, health, and recovery. Jonathan Reinartz (University of Birmingham) explored the work of the Humane Society in Birmingham, and in a broader international context. Malthe Thiessen (University of Oldenburg) presented the history of vaccination in Germany as a history of individualisation in the 'Age of Extremes', and Michael Dwyer (University College Cork) explored the Ring Immunisation Disaster, and concerns regarding the safety of immunisation in Ireland and Britain during the 1930s.

Session 2: A panel on 'Risk Management' began with Victoria Bates (University of Exeter) who identified a tension between the use of arts/humanities in medical curricula and the rise in evidence based healthcare since 1945. Anne Hardy (LSHTM)

explored the question of food, risk and hygiene, arguing that British healthcare reformers have failed to recognise the importance of familial/domestic education in basic personal hygiene. Josette Duncan (Warwick University) examined nineteenth-century travel medical literature to explore the concept of Climatotherapy in the south Mediterranean. Sebastian Pranghofer (Helmut-Schmidt-University) drew on Foucault's concept of 'governmentality' to show how military medicine played a key role in the formation of 'biopower' in the eighteenth-century, and James F. Stark (Leeds HRI) unpacked the historical backstory to the concept of risk associated with employment in environments in which anthrax occurred.

In the final session, a panel on 'The politics of health, risks, ethnic tension and migration' began with Anna Greenwood (University of Nottingham, Ningbo China) and Harshad Topiwala (Independent Scholar) who asked why the specific contribution of Indian doctors to the medical history of the East Africa Protectorate has been ignored? Sascha Topp (Justus-Liebig-University) focused on the practice and function of health examinations as part of the selection procedures for the recruitment of foreign labourers in the West German labour market. Sam Goodman (University of Exeter) explored Indian Mutiny Diaries and argued that because of the constant risk of sickness to the doctors themselves, the diaries uniquely function as a patient and practitioner narrative in simultaneity. Finishing this session Sally Sheard (University of Liverpool) examined the articulation of risks posed by the seafaring community in Liverpool in the early twentieth-century and the public health policy determined by the Port Medical Officer, Dr. Edward Hope. The evening was rounded off with a SSHM and EAHMH Post-graduate student meeting.

**Day 2:** Barbra Mann Wall's keynote (University of Pennsylvania) took a global view of the nursing profession's response to natural disasters and humanitarian crises. In Session 4, a panel on 'International Health Programs and Responsibility', began with

Ieva Libiete (Pauls Stradins Museum) who analysed the writings of psychiatrist Verners Kraulis to explore the liberal application of eugenics in Latvia during the interwar period, and Matthew Smith (University of Strathclyde) examined the ban on peanuts in a Canadian municipally-operated stadium in order to highlight the debate surrounding public health policy determining reasonable responses to health risks.

Session 5: A panel 'Risky Business: Unwanted Pregnancy, Transnational Access to Abortion Services and the 1967 Abortion Act', began with Gayle Davis (University of Edinburgh) who considered the various tensions that medical responses to unwanted pregnancy reflected in the decade after the 1967 Abortion Act. Christabelle Sethna (University of Ottawa) examined abortion tourism, the liberalisation of British abortion laws, and transnational travel for access to abortion services, and Ruth Fletcher (QMUL) considered the 'economics of strangering' as a strategy adopted by volunteers affiliated with British based abortion care support groups.

Session 6: A panel on 'Pursuing the Public Health?' began with Elma Brenner (Wellcome Library) who investigated the response of medical practitioners and ordinary citizens to disease in Normandy at the dawn of the early modern period, and Kathleen Vongsathorn (Max Planck Institute) presented an analysis of health in colonial Uganda with a focus on the European medical actors; colonial government medicine, and missionary medicine. The evening concluded with a conference dinner in the beautiful Centro Cultural de Belem where Alun Withey was presented with the EAHMH Book Award 2013 for his monograph *Physick and the Family* (Manchester, 2012).

On Saturday, a keynote talk by Manuel Valente Alves (University of Lisbon) on the human at risk was followed by the final session. The panel 'Coping with disease in Central Europe' began with Karel Cerny (Charles University, Prague) who discussed

the early modern academic perspective on the concept of 'risk epidemic' as presented by plague treatises. Claudia Resch (ICLTT) demonstrated how analysis of historical source material can provide quantitative evidence of how the plague experience in Vienna was presented in lexical and linguistic patterns. Christian Gepp (UNRLS, Vienna) examined public health interventions undertaken by the Viennese Contagions-Commissarii to prevent the plague spreading to the Hofburg, residence of the Roman Emperor of the German Nation, and Markus P. Swittalek (Medical University Vienna) examined the motivations behind the urban planning and design employed by Emperor Joseph II to make Vienna a healthy, green, and liveable city. To mark the conclusion of the EAHMH Conference a now customary boat trip took attendees on a leisurely sail along the Tagus River.

*Michael Anthony Dwyer  
University College Cork*



*Photo: Members of the Warwick Centre for the History of Medicine at the Pharmacia restaurant, Lisbon, during EAHMH.*

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## **EAHMH CONFERENCE: 'RISK AND DISASTER IN MEDICINE AND HEALTH', Lisbon, 4-7 September 2013.**

Risks and disasters have accompanied medicine and health throughout history, although it is only in the last few decades, particularly since the sociologist Ulrich Beck published his seminal *Risk Society* (first publ.

in German, 1986), that historians have widely begun to engage with these important concepts alongside scholars of other disciplines. **The 2013 conference of the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health (EAHMH)**, held in Lisbon, Portugal, brought together over a hundred historians from Europe and North America to discuss and debate this theme, with papers focusing on such inter-related topics as the conceptualisation, perception and management of health risks, the risks of medical and technological innovation, and social, cultural and political responses to particular medical and health crises in history. Delegates not only showcased the vibrancy of this particular field of research, but demonstrated the crucial importance and value of applying a historical perspective to debates around current and future risks and disasters in medicine and health.

Organised by Professor Laurinda Abreu, President of the EAHMH and her colleagues, the conference officially opened with a reception in the magnificent Lisbon City Hall. The following morning, the conference began in earnest with an opening keynote by Javier Moscoso of CSIC (Spain). Titled 'History of Medicine on Display', Moscoso charted the history of public and professional interest in the display of human bodies at museums, including the example of the 'Skin' exhibition which he curated at the Wellcome Collection in London (2010). Describing the complex relationship between museums, public and medical profession, Moscoso used the example of such exhibitions to call for historians to embrace inter-disciplinarity not as an obligation, but as a necessity. Parallel sessions throughout the day proceeded to cover such diverse subjects as the risks of innovation, occupational health, and risk management, where delegates were introduced to the rich array of current scholarly work on risks dating from classical antiquity to the present. Risks examined ranged from smallpox vaccination (John Chircop) to light therapy (Tania Anne Woloshyn), asbestos (Alfredo Menéndez-Navarro) and breast cancer (Angela Grainger).

Friday opened with a stimulating keynote by Barbra Mann Wall (University of Pennsylvania) on the blurring of public and professional boundaries during disasters. Focusing on the role played by nurses, Mann Wall described 'emergent phenomena', or the appearance of inter-organisational networks at the scene of the disaster. Drawing upon a number of case studies including the Nigerian Civil War, she persuasively argued how nurses make critical independent decisions during crises, when time is of fundamental importance. Sessions over the day again concentrated on a range of topics. A morning session by historians involved in the Wellcome Trust-funded project on industrial disability and disease in British coalmining between 1798 and 1948, demonstrated the plurality of strategies used by miners and trade unions to manage industrial risk across three separate regional locations, the North East of England, Scotland, and South Wales, respectively. In the afternoon, a session on risk policies included papers on droughts, public water supplies, women healers and malnutrition, exploring the variable responses to risk in early-modern and rural communities. Later in the day, a fascinating session on risk and the public included papers on pre-natal genetic screening, morphine addiction, and the Body Mass Index (BMI). In particular, the papers on genetic screening and the BMI revealed how modern risk technologies increasingly position the individual as his or her own risk manager, 'responsibilising' them not only in terms of their own, but potentially their descendants' health. The day concluded with a conference dinner at the Belém Cultural Centre, close to the famous UNESCO world heritage site, which included the awarding of the EAHMH book prize.

The final day of the conference began with a thought-provoking keynote presentation by Manuel Valente Alves (University of Lisbon). Leading delegates on a two-thousand-year journey through the history of art and science, Alves described how historical thinkers including Leonardo da Vinci tried to conceptualise and overcome

human anatomical limitations in their work. A concluding session on drugs and health risk subsequently described the response of biomedical science and regulatory systems to medical accidents and disasters, including the thalidomide scandal. Notable contributions came from Nils Kessel (DHVS, France), who addressed the vital issue of post-market drug safety and its delicate relationship with economic interest, and Vítor M. J. Matos (University of Coimbra, Portugal), who analysed clinical files from sanatoria to reconstruct the history of tuberculosis in Portugal. The AGM of the EAHMH was held in the afternoon, which included the awarding of the EAHMH student prize and the election of the new Scientific Board and President. The next conference of the Association will take place in Ulm, Germany, in 2015. The conference ended with an invigorating boat trip along the River Tagus, which afforded delegates an invaluable opportunity to reflect on the preceding days and socialise with colleagues from across the world.

The conference was generously sponsored by a number of organisations, including the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the University of Évora, and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

*Christopher Sirrs*  
*London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine*

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## **ACCIDENTS AND EMERGENCIES: RISK, WELFARE AND SAFETY IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA, C.1750-2000**

**9-11 September 2013, Oxford Brookes University, UK**

This conference brought together historians and professionals alike to discuss the complex history of a ubiquitous but comparatively under-studied feature of human experience: the accident. Elaborating on previous key work such as Cooter and Luckin's collection on Accidents in History and Ulrich Beck's thesis of the emergence of a 'risk society', the three days of panels and plenaries created a vibrant discussion about the concepts of risk and safety with a number of distinct themes

and comparisons emerging. The excellent work on show here revealed that accidents – often either ignored or dismissed as ahistorical or an unpredictable occurrence – can reveal the values and anxieties of societies and institutions.

Bill Luckin (Bolton)'s opening plenary exemplified this by looking at an area of nineteenth century society which has rarely been identified, the drink-driving accident. Luckin examined the legal cases of alcohol-related street accidents, finding that many early court cases had a strong focus on the 'character' of the defendant. The paper included several themes which would reappear in many later panels, including the role of class and the onset of new technology which brought with it even more potential for danger.

This latter point was discussed in the other panel of the day, which looked at the ways in which technology affected the rates of and attitudes towards industrial accidents. Richard Biddle (Oxford) examined the introduction of steam and iron into the nineteenth-century shipbuilding industries, finding that these new work methods brought with them an increased risk of damage to the upper body and eyes. Mia McCabe (Northumbria) continued this theme with a study of the Davy Lamp, which emerged amidst complaints of poor illumination and ventilation in the mines of north east England, but its design created new safety issues of its own.

The next day's sessions began with papers demonstrating the role of education and prevention schemes in creating the cultural and social image of the accident. Mike Esbester (Portsmouth) used numerous sources – from workplace posters of the 1910s to road safety Christmas wrapping paper – to illustrate the construction of the accident as socially deviant. This conception was discussed further in the context of traffic safety education in socialist Poland by Mariusz Jastrzab (Kozminski University Warsaw). One of the points which emerged in this session was that accident prevention advice was heavily gendered. Magda Fahrni

(Université du Québec à Montréal) argued that the accident prevention movement in Quebec contributed to a transnational dialogue linking masculinity to technical expertise, with their local work informed by developments in other countries.

Arwen Mohun (Delaware)'s plenary lecture brought together many of the key ideas and themes of the conference and prompted a vibrant discussion about these afterwards. Mohun argued for the importance of power, gender, marginal groups and the central position of people to the history of risk. The talk was an effective manifesto for risk history and touched on many ideas which were to reappear throughout the conference.

Another session introduced environmental approaches to the conversation. Glen O'Hara (Oxford Brookes) examined safety propaganda about water in post-war Britain, overtly displaying fears of drowning but also more subtly reflecting the social democratic aims of post-war public leisure. While O'Hara revealed national trends and insecurities, Teva Meyer (Paris 8) used a transnational perspective to discuss the Fessenheim nuclear plant on the border between France and Germany, where both the governance of and opposition to the plant was international. Meyer argued that its status as a borderland site brought with it specific questions for its model of governance.

An excellent panel on the final day discussed occupational health and safety regulation from the 1960s onwards. Christopher Sirrs (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) looked at the context of the 1972 Robens Report - which recommended a self-regulatory model of health and safety - by exploring the social and political climate in the years leading up to it. The other two papers continued this chronology. The effects of the subsequent 1974 Health and Safety at Work etc. Act were discussed by one of the key figures, the former Director-General of the UK Health and Safety Executive John Rimington, whilst Paul Almond (Reading) brought the issue up to the present day by questioning why public

attitudes have shifted to questioning the legitimacy of health and safety legislation.

With the clear policy implications and contemporary relevance of that panel in mind, the final session of the conference was a concluding roundtable featuring Rimington and several representatives from organisations such as the British Safety Council and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. All of the participants were keen to stress the importance of constructing these links between academic histories of risk and policymaking in this area, and this formed the basis of a discussion about building these links and presenting this history to the public. The session also once again brought together the central ideas of the conference, showing that safety and accidents are themselves terms with meanings that change over time and were a canvas for wider issues.

The organisers, Tom Crook and Mike Esbester, did a sterling job of putting this conference together, and have laid down a discussion which will be continued with further study and more events to discuss this important area of history. Podcasts from the plenary sessions of the conference are available via the Pulse Project:

<http://www.pulse-project.org/node/568>.

*Dr Michael Mantin  
Swansea University*

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## **MEDICAL HUMANITIES**

**hosted by WiSER at the University of the Witwatersrand, 2-4 September 2013.**

**Historians and literary scholars at WITS University launched the field of medical humanities in Africa at a landmark international conference in Johannesburg recently.** For the last 20 years the field of

medical history has gradually been growing inside Southern African universities.

Encouraged by the scholarship of Shula Marks and Megan Vaughan in the UK, and propelled locally by Howard Phillips, Harriet Deacon and Elizabeth van Heyningen, as well as Catherine Burns, Vanessa Noble and Julie Parle, the ranks have been swelled joined by a

number of young historians working on fields such as medical photography (Glen Ncube); HIV and South African medical history (Mandisa Mbali, Rebecca Hodes, Carla Tsampiras); medical law and the body (Prinisha Badassy); and the history of childhood and maternal health (Sarah Duff). Despite the inroads historians have made into medical curricula there is little evidence of counter-moves, and although historians have engaged with anthropologists, literary scholars, psychologists and sociologists in work on medical institutions, healing, the body, pain and death, there has been little cross disciplinary work in undergraduate teaching and co-taught graduate courses across these fields remains uncommon. Given the lamentable thickness of the divisions between science and arts education in this country and our region we have felt for some time that we need to begin to learn how to frame a shared conversation. In addressing this lacunae, and to ignite cross disciplinary research projects and pedagogical debates, the groundbreaking conference, titled "Body Knowledge: Medicine and the Humanities in Conversation", hosted by the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research, was the first major outcome of this new learning. At the end of the conference a day long workshop with colleagues from UCT and other South African and international universities was held around devising ways to engage the National Research Foundation of South Africa in developing this knowledge field.

The Conference key note speaker, historian of Africa with a graduate degree in public health, Julie Livingston (Rutgers University), gave an opening address based on her work in oncology in Botswana. In order to analyse and write into this space Livingston has drawn on medical anthropology, interweaving archival and narrative interview evidence with in situ work in medical wards. Julie has been publishing in the last decade in history, anthropology and public health journals as well as in the field of medical ethics, and this layering of her expertise and engagement was powerfully evident in her

lecture. Addressing the complexity of the photographic images of suffering and pain in her archive, she drew on her book *Improvising Medicine*, (Duke University Press, 2012) for which she recently won the Wellcome Medal. In it Livingston wrote a history of Botswana's only dedicated cancer ward and placed the rising cancer epidemic in that country into global context. But it is her imbrication of this account with the deeply social experience of illness and suffering that makes this an exemplary work of African scholarship, one that is being read by people working in very different fields around the world.

Livingston's thoughtful and challenging opening address raised many complex questions, especially for the many historians present, that were reiterated and parsed in the three Roundtable debates and in sessions where historians worked alongside artists, psychologists, sociologists, economists, art historians, philosophers, political theorists, novelists, photographers and music scholars, but also haematologists, anatomists, oncologists, microbiologists, nephrologists, family and public health medicine specialists, pathologists and internal medicine specialists, on the nature of knowledge, on the perils and possibilities of instrumental or directed research; on questions of evidence and voice; on conceptions of proof and truth claims – ontological and political questions about power, resources, knowledge, and the common roots of science and humanities scholarship. The variety of papers and the vibrancy of discussion testified to the capacious potential of this multidisciplinary field of enquiry, still in its infancy here.

One of the most exciting aspects of the conference was the presentation of papers by a host of recent graduates with master's degrees and doctorates, from universities around Southern Africa, animated by this emerging inter-disciplinary space. Graduates from fields such as health communication, history, anthropology, nutrition science, public health, HIV medicine, literature, philosophy, psychology and law offered papers from their works in progress,

generating rich and engaged debates that spilled over into the tea and cocktail events.

The conference showcase art exhibition, "A Fine Line", on the work of renowned South African art theorist, fine artists and medical illustrator, the late Colin Richards, traced the history of medical illustration in South Africa. The conference dinner, held in the Adler Museum of Medical History, showcased again the crucial place of archives and historical work on the body and in medical knowledge.

For more information about the programme and the recent conference:

- <http://wiser.wits.ac.za/event/body-knowledge-medicine-and-humanities-conversation>

- <http://wiser.wits.ac.za/page/medical-humanities-wiser-10981>

- <http://mg.co.za/article/2013-08-30-humanising-the-science-of-the-body>

*Catherine Burns is an historian at the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research and heads Wits University's development of Medical Humanities.*

## **SSH M SPONSORED EVENT**

### **SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE 2014 CONFERENCE: DISEASE, HEALTH, AND THE STATE**

**10-12 July 2014, Oxford, UK**

The Society for the Social History of Medicine hosts a major, biennial, international, and interdisciplinary conference. In 2014 it will explore the relationships between health, disease, and the state. The biennial conference is not exclusive in terms of its theme, and reflects the broad diversity of the discipline of the social history of medicine.

#### **Call for Papers**

Proposals that consider all topics relevant to the history of medicine broadly conceived are invited, but the 2014 committee encourages proposals for papers, sessions, and round-tables that examine, challenge, and refine the history of disease, health and the state. Suggested themes include local and global

understandings of health, medicine, and governance; the consolidation, breakdown, or absence of state power in the midst of health and medical crises; and the experience of health and medical bureaucracies in the past. From discussions on the health of the body politic, the role of public health in imperial governance, the nature of military medicine, environmental regulations, to socialized medicine, we welcome approaches from a variety of disciplines and time periods. However, submissions are not restricted to any area of study, and the committee welcomes proposals on a range of subjects relevant to the history of medicine, from the history of health and disease to the history of medical care.

The committee encourages proposals advancing innovative thinking based on new research. Paper submissions should include a 250-word abstract and a short CV. Panel submissions should include three papers (each with a 250-word abstract and short CV), a chair, and a 100-word panel abstract. Round-table submissions should include the names of four participants (each with a short CV), a chair, and a 500-word abstract.

#### **Call for Posters**

As well as a traditional Call for Papers, proposals are invited for a special Poster Exhibit on the conference theme to be held on the second day of the conference. The exhibit will provide participants with an opportunity to showcase their research in a format that is interactive and collegial. It offers an alternative for those eager to share their work through one-on-one discussion, is especially useful for work-in-progress, and may be particularly appropriate for projects where visual or material evidence represents a central component. An award will be given to the best poster displayed at the conference.

#### **Deadline for paper and poster proposals: 1 January 2014.**

Submissions should be sent to:

[sshm2014@wuhmo.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sshm2014@wuhmo.ox.ac.uk).

Please see the conference website for more information. [www.sshm2014.org](http://www.sshm2014.org).



## SSH M BOOK SERIES

### 25% discount for members

Pickering and Chatto have announced the latest books in the SSHM book series.

Members of the SSHM receive a 25% discount on copies, either via the P&C website: [www.pickeringchatto.com/series](http://www.pickeringchatto.com/series) or by emailing [sales@pickeringchatto.co.uk](mailto:sales@pickeringchatto.co.uk)

**B. Gausemeier, S. Müller-Wille and E. Ramsden** (eds.) *Human Heredity in the Twentieth Century* (2013)

**F. Huisman and H. Oosterhuis**, *Health and Citizenship: Political Cultures of Health in Modern Europe* (December 2013)

**A. Shepherd**, *Institutionalizing the Insane in Nineteenth-Century England* (February 2014)

Members of the SSHM will receive a 25% discount on copies, either via the P&C website: [www.pickeringchatto.com/series](http://www.pickeringchatto.com/series) or by emailing [sales@pickeringchatto.co.uk](mailto:sales@pickeringchatto.co.uk) The code is: SSHM0214 and the offer is available until 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014.



## CALLS FOR PAPERS

### THE MALADIES, MIRACLES AND MEDICINE OF THE MIDDLE AGES

Graduate Centre for Medieval Studies,  
University of Reading  
Saturday 15 March 2014

Health was an issue for all ranks of society throughout the Middle Ages, whether competing with coughs and colds, dealing with disabilities or persevering through plague epidemics. Afflictions came in all shapes and sizes and had varying levels of impact upon the lives of sufferers. But what course of action would be best when faced with injury or illness? Would you turn to homely, herbal remedies, the secular salvation

of physicians and surgeons or the miraculous medicine of the saints? This conference will consider questions such as these by bringing together post-graduate and early-career researchers for a day of papers discussing a wide range of issues which fall under the topics of maladies, miracles and medicine (either in combination or as singular subjects). The aim is to have a wide range of papers on various elements of this general theme, whether your interests lie in medieval literature, art, archaeology, medicine, science or magic. Particular themes to consider include:

- The practices and learning of physicians and surgeons.
- The curative powers of saints and their relics.
- Experiences and/or evidence of illness, disabilities or treatment in the Middle Ages.
- Particular and/or unusual afflictions and cures.

Proposals for twenty minute papers fitting, broadly, into one of the above themes are welcomed from all post-graduate and early-career researchers before the deadline of **10 January 2014**.

Please email your proposed title and abstract (max. 200) words to the organiser, Ruth Salter: [r.j.salter@pgr.reading.ac.uk](mailto:r.j.salter@pgr.reading.ac.uk)

Those wishing to register, or with any queries, should also contact the above address. Further details will be released closer to the date. Attendance at the conference is free but registration is required. Refreshments and a cold lunch will be provided.

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### EARLY MODERN WOMEN, RELIGION, AND THE BODY

22-23 July 2014, Loughborough University.

**Plenary speakers: Professor Mary Fissell (Johns Hopkins) and Dr Katharine Hodgkin (University of East London)**

With public lecture by Alison Weir (evening of 22 July, Martin Hall Theatre): "The Prince

expected in due season”: The Queen’s First Duty’.

This two-day conference will explore the response of early modern texts to the relationship between religion and female bodily health. Scholars have long observed that understandings of the flesh and the spirit were inextricably intertwined in the early modern period, and that women’s writings or writings about women often explored this complex relationship. For instance, how did early modern women understand pain, illness, and health in a religious framework, and was this different to the understanding of those around them? Did women believe that their bodies were sinful? And were male and female religious experiences different because they took place in different bodies?

We invite proposals that address the relationship between religion and health, and the spirit and flesh, with a focus on female experience in any genre in print or manuscript. Genres might include medical, literary, religious, autobiographical, instructive, and rhetorical writings.

Topics might include, but are not limited to:

- Methods of recording or maintaining bodily and spiritual health
- The function of religion/faith in physiological changes (e.g. pregnancy / childbirth / nursing / menstruation)
- Illness, providence, and interpretation
- Suffering as part of religious experience and conversion
- Spiritual melancholy, madness, demonic possession, or witchcraft
- The physical effects of prophesying/preaching
- Chastity and religious life Spiritual and physical births/reproductive tropes
- Ensoulment and pregnancy
- The miraculous or martyred female body
- The body and sin
- Uses of the Bible in medical treatises

We invite proposals for 20-minute papers, complete panels, or roundtable discussions. Suggestions for discussions on pedagogical

approaches to teaching the above topics are also welcome.

Please send abstracts of 300 words for 20-minute papers, or longer proposals for panels or roundtables, to Rachel Adcock, Sara Read, and Anna Warzycha at [emwomen@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:emwomen@lboro.ac.uk) by 31st January 2014.

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## POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL HUMANITIES CONFERENCE

**The Centre for Medical History at the University of Exeter will be holding an interdisciplinary medical humanities conference for postgraduate researchers on the 24th and 25th July 2014.**

This conference aims to bring together researchers from a variety of disciplines in a manner that reflects the broad scope of exciting research being carried out in the field of the medical humanities at present. As such we welcome abstracts on any aspect of the medical humanities from postgraduates working in all disciplines, including but not restricted to English Literature, History, Film, Classics and Art History.

The conference will provide a forum for postgraduate scholars to exchange ideas and share their research in a friendly and engaging environment. The event will also allow delegates to discuss their work with senior academics in the field including keynote speakers and other members of the Exeter Centre for Medical History.

### Guest Speakers

Professor Anne Borsay, Swansea University  
Dr Angelique Richardson, University of Exeter

The event will close with a roundtable session drawing together the themes arising from the conference and reflecting on future directions of research in the medical humanities.

We invite applicants to submit **abstracts of up to 300 words for 20 minute papers (previously unpublished), sent to [pgmedhums@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:pgmedhums@exeter.ac.uk) by Friday 28th March 2014** with the “subject” of the email as ‘PGMH conference abstract’.

Once the deadline has passed a panel will review the abstracts anonymously and applicants will receive a decision and feedback on their submissions. If your paper is not selected we very much hope you will still be able to attend the conference and participate in the discussion.

We hope to be able to offer a small number of travel bursaries which will be announced closer to the event.

*Jess Monaghan and Sarah Jones*

### **SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE STUDENT BURSARIES**

SSHM offers bursaries for students to assist them in meeting the financial costs of attending the Society's own and relevant other conferences. For full details about applying and eligibility please visit the Society's website:

<http://www.sshm.org/content/conference-bursaries-students>

### **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF NURSING**

**The American Association for the History of Nursing and the University of Connecticut's School of Nursing, are co-sponsoring the Association's 31st annual conference to be held in Hartford and Storrs, CT on September 18-21, 2014**

Keynote speaker is Yale University Professor John Harley Warner. The conference provides a forum for researchers interested in sharing new research that addresses events, issues, and topics in any area of nursing and health care history broadly construed to encompass the history of nursing, global nursing history, nursing practice, health care institutions, caring, illness, healing work and public health. Submissions pertaining to all areas and

regions of the world are welcome. Papers and posters that expand the horizons of nursing and health care history and engage related fields such as women's, labor, technology, and economic history and race and gender studies are encouraged. Individual papers, posters, and panel presentations are featured at the conference. Abstracts must be submitted by January 31, 2014. Additional information about AAHN and the conference can be obtained at [www.aahn.org](http://www.aahn.org).

### **SSHM FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS**

#### **TRADING MEDICINES: THE GLOBAL DRUG TRADE IN PERSPECTIVE**

**London School of Economics, 10 January 2014**

This half-day workshop examines the supply and reception of medical drugs during the creation of an early modern global market from the sixteenth through to the eighteenth centuries. It addresses a key question in the history of medicine: how did early modern globalisation impact medicine in Europe?

The workshop explores developments across various European nations, their empires, and global trading networks. Papers will focus on the broad sweep of medical commodities that were exchanged, taking a long view and considering as many different substances as possible, in order to build a big picture of developments across the early modern period.

The programme includes **Clare Griffin (Cambridge)** on 'Foreign Medicines between Western Europe and Russia, 1550-1750', **Samir Boumediene (Max Planck, Berlin)** on 'Europe's reception of Medicinal Plants from Spanish America (1570-1750)', **Ben Breen, (Texas)** on 'Medicinal drugs in the Portuguese and British empires, c. 1640-1750', and **Jan Veluwenkamp (Groeningen)**, 'The Baltic drugs traffic, 1650-1850'.

There is no attendance fee but registration is required. For further details, see <http://www.lse.ac.uk/economicHistory/Conferences/>

Supported by the Wellcome Trust, the Economic History Society, and the Royal Historical Society

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## EARLY MODERN MEDICINE OF THE MIND

30 – 31 May 2014, Warburg Institute.

**Organised by:** Sorana Corneanu (University of Bucharest), Guido Giglioni (Warburg Institute) and Charles Wolfe (Ghent University)

**Speakers:** Fabrizio Bigotti (Warburg Institute), Sorana Corneanu (Bucharest), Guido Giglioni (Warburg Institute), Angus Gowland (UCL), Rina Knoeff (Groningen), Kathryn Tabb (Pittsburgh), Catherine Wilson (York/Rice) and Charles Wolfe (Ghent University)

The idea of the cure and care of the soul, seen as parallel or complementary to the cure and care of the body, became increasingly popular in the early modern period, from the fifteenth to the eighteenth centuries. It is certainly not by accident that such phrases as 'medicine of the soul' and 'medicine of the mind' were often used in a wide range of therapeutic contexts. The workshop intends to explore the extent to which early modern ways of curing and caring for one's soul can be seen as a bridging category that functioned across a number of interrelated disciplines (natural and moral philosophy, logic, medicine and theology).

We propose to reconstruct the early modern project of the 'medicine of the mind' in its shifting, sometimes conflicting iterations: from Renaissance articulations of humoral medicine with philosophical or theological cures of the soul, through seventeenth-century attempts at rethinking the relationship between the two medicines, of the mind and of the body, to eighteenth-century medical-philosophical developments which adopt increasingly materialist positions.

**For further details** about the conference and how to register see the website:

<http://warburg.sas.ac.uk/events/colloquia-2013-14/early-modern-medicine-of-the-mind/>



## SEMINAR SERIES

*For the new academic year: some seminar highlights for November - January. Please send details of spring series for the February issue.*

### CENTRE FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE, GLASGOW.

Seminars in the Hamish Wood Building, W325, Refreshments from 3:30.

6 November, 4pm. **Romola Davenport**

(University of Cambridge), 'The origins of the modern mortality regime: infant mortality by social status in Georgian London'

4 December, 4pm. **Lindsey Earner-Byrne**,

(UCD) "'Dear Father my health is broken down": Writing health in Irish charity letters, 1920-1940'

### HISTORY OF PRE-MODERN MEDICINE

Wellcome Trust, Gibbs Bldg, 215 Euston Rd, NW1 2BE. Doors: 6pm, Start: 6.15. Open to all.

5 November, **Hannah Newton** (Cambridge),

"'O how sweet is ease!': Recovering from Illness in Early Modern England, 1580-1720'.

19 November, **Emilie Savage-Smith** (Oxford)

"'The Best Accounts of the Classes of Physicians": A history of medicine throughout the known world, composed in Syria in the 13th century'.

**Organising Committee:** Elma Brenner (Wellcome Library), Sandra Cavallo (RHUL), John Henderson (Birkbeck) Colin Jones (QMUL), William MacLehose (UCL), Anna Maerker (KCL), Christelle Rabier (LSE), Patrick Wallis (LSE, convenor), Ronit Yoeli-Tlalim (Goldsmiths). **Enquiries** to Ross MacFarlane ([R.MacFarlane@wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:R.MacFarlane@wellcome.ac.uk)) or Dr Patrick Wallis ([p.h.wallis@lse.ac.uk](mailto:p.h.wallis@lse.ac.uk)).

## KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

[www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/history/research/ressemsci.aspx](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/history/research/ressemsci.aspx)

24 November, 5pm: **Dennis Stathakopoulos**

(KCL) 'Healing Encounters: Medicine as Cultural Exchange, 13th-15th centuries.'

4 December: **Don Avery** (University of Western Ontario) 'Should influenza be considered a biological weapon? A historical and contemporary debate.'

## HISTORY OF MEDICINE UNIT, BIRMINGHAM

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activities/mds/centres/histmed/index.aspx>

Thursday 7th Nov, 5.30pm. **Dr Jennifer Laws** (Durham) 'Configuring the 'Active Patient': Energy, Desire and Active Recoveries'

Thursday 21st Nov, 5.30pm. **Dr Elise Smith** (Oxford) 'From Anthropometrics to Biometrics: The Remeasure of Man in Britain, 1870-1930'

Thursday 5th December, 5.30pm. **John Ash Lecture by Paul McMaster** (MSF, UK) 'Casualty medical care - a personal history'

## JOHNS HOPKINS PROGRAM IN THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE, MEDICINE & TECHNOLOGY

<http://web.jhu.edu/hsmt/>

14 November, **Fred Gibbs** (University of New Mexico) Poison, Putrefaction, and Sixteenth-Century Ontology of Disease

5 December, **Joseph Gabriel** (Florida State University, College of Medicine) Intellectual Property Rights and the Moral Economy of Big Pharma, 1918-1942

## EDINBURGH HISTORY OF MEDICINE GROUP

<http://www.rcpe.ac.uk/news/edinburgh-history-medicine-group-seminars-2013-14>

6th November 2013 - **Prof Michael Bliss** (University of Toronto) 'Scotland's Discoverer of Insulin: JJR Macleod'

27th November 2013 - **Prof Sue Black** (University of Dundee) 'The History of Forensic Anthropology: Perhaps it is Really Forensic Anatomy'

5th December 2013 - **Prof Sir Kenneth Calman** (University of Glasgow) 'Evidence and

Action: The Legacy of John Snow. Views from the Literature of Scotland on the Potential for Health' \*\*tea 4.30pm; 5.15 kick-off\*\*

29th January 2014 - **Dr Keren Hammerschlag** (Georgetown University) 'William Orpen: Looking at Bodies in Medicine and Art'.

## OXFORD BROOKES HISTORY OF MEDICINE SEMINAR SERIES: THE PERSONAL AND THE PUBLIC - PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIAL HISTORY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE

[www.history.brookes.ac.uk/more/seminars/history-of-medicine/](http://www.history.brookes.ac.uk/more/seminars/history-of-medicine/)

Tuesday 12 November, 4:30 pm. **Dr Anne Sudrow**, 'Boots to Fit: Orthopaedic Research on the Shoe Testing Track in Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, 1943-44'.

Tuesday 26 November, 4:30 pm. **Professor Ludmilla Jordanova**, 'Intimacy and Display in Medical Portraits'.

Tuesday 10 December, 4:30 pm. **Dr Roberta Bivins**, 'Slummy Foreign Germs? Politics, Medicine and Postcolonial Migration'

## CENTRE FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE IN IRELAND

[www.ucd.ie/history/chomi/events.html](http://www.ucd.ie/history/chomi/events.html)

Thursday 7 November, 5pm. **Dr Laura Kelly** (UCD), '"Some of these Gentlemen may be a little Wild": Irish Medical Student Culture, Gentility and Professional Identity, c.1830-1900'.

## GLOBAL HEALTH HISTORIES PUBLIC LECTURES 2013 (UNIVERSITY OF YORK)

[www.york.ac.uk/global-health-histories](http://www.york.ac.uk/global-health-histories)

12 November, **Dr Niels Brimnes**, 'India and Global Tuberculosis Control 1910-1975'.

26 November, **Professor Christoph Gradmann**, 'Crocodiles, Tigers and Bacilli: Exoticism and Bacteriology around 1900'.

3 December, **Professor Kapil Raj**, 'Connecting Chronologies: Constructing Anthropology and Legitimising Empire in Late 18th-Century South Asia'.

## BARBARA BATES CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE HISTORY OF NURSING

The Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce its 2014 Spring Seminar Series in which cross-disciplinary scholars present topics of interest to the history of nursing and health care community.

January 29 – **Kathleen Nishida** (UPenn)

February 12 – **Dr Gina Greene** (UPenn)

February 26 – **Dr Lynn Lees** (UPenn)

March 5 – **Dr Judith Giesberg** (Villanova)

March 19 – **Dr Lara Freidenfelds**  
(Independent Scholar)

April 2 – **Dr Margaret Marsh** (Rutgers) and  
Dr Wanda Ronner (Pennsylvania  
Hospital)

April 16 – **Dr Janet Golden** (Rutgers)

April 30 – **Dr Brigid Gurtler** (Princeton)

The seminar series, which is also available via webinar, is open to all and welcomes scholars and other interested individuals to attend. For further information and to obtain a complete listing of speakers and topics as well as how to register for the webinars, please visit the Center's website at

[www.nursing.upenn.edu/history](http://www.nursing.upenn.edu/history)

## LSHTM CENTRE FOR HISTORY IN PUBLIC HEALTH & POPULATION STUDIES GROUP SEMINARS IN HISTORICAL DEMOGRAPHY

All seminars 12.45-2pm.

Wednesday, 6th Nov 2013, **Shane Doyle**, (Leeds),  
'The Origins of Rapid Population Growth in Great Lakes East Africa', Venue: Jerry Morris B, Tavistock Place

Wednesday, 20th Nov 2013, **Bárbara Revuelta Eugercios** (INED, Paris), 'Why did infants die in the city? The different mortality experience of infants and foundlings in Madrid in the early 20th century', Venue: LG9, Keppel Street Building

Wednesday, 4th Dec 2013, **Rebecca Williams** (Warwick), 'Producing a Population Laboratory: The Khanna Study, Harvard School of Public Health and the

'Epidemiology of Population', 1953-1960',

Venue: Jerry Morris B, Tavistock Place

Wednesday, 11th Dec 2013, **Alice Reid** (Cambridge),

'From Ague to Pyrexia and from Smallpox to Heart Disease: A General Overview of causes of Death in Scotland 1855-1955', Venue: Lucas Room, Keppel Street Building

## SSHM LSHTM FILMS & WALKS

### HISTORY, HEALTH AND FILMS: A SERIES OF LUNCHTIME FILMS ON PUBLIC HEALTH HISTORY

Tuesday, 19th November 2013, 12.45-2pm  
**'THE NARCOTIC FARM'**

Venue: Manson Lect Theatre, Keppel St Building

*Ground breaking film about the U.S. State farm for addicts in Lexington, Kentucky*

Tuesday, 26th November 2013, 12.45-2pm  
**A SELECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH FILMS ON OBESITY**

**'Cruel kindness' (1968) (13 mins)**

**'A way of life' (1976) (22 mins)**

**'The causes of obesity' (1977) (36 mins)**

Venue: John Snow Lecture Theatre, Keppel St Building

All welcome. Special thanks to the Wellcome Trust. Organised by the Centre for History in Public Health. To be added to the mailing list contact [Ingrid.James@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Ingrid.James@lshtm.ac.uk)

### LSHTM PUBLIC HEALTH HISTORY WALKS

Weds 6th Nov 2013, 5.00 - c.6.45 pm  
**'THE AMAZING DR SNOW'**

Trace the history of an infamous 19th century cholera outbreak, solved by Dr John Snow – and learn more of the medical and mysterious history of Soho. Ends at the John Snow pub.

Tues 10th Dec 2013, 5.00- c.6.45 pm  
**'BRILLIANT BLOOMSBURY'**

Traditionally one of the brainiest places in London. There have been so many innovators and pioneers in Bloomsbury that you will find this walk packed with anecdotes and stories as we follow the trail of Darwin, Dickens and dealing with malaria.

*The walks will be led by Dr Ros Stanwell-Smith, a Public Health Consultant who is also a Blue Badge Guide*

Each Walk is free. Numbers are limited (20 places). If you would like to participate, please book with Ingrid James: Tel: 020 7927 - 2434 or email [ingrid.james@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:ingrid.james@lshtm.ac.uk)

*Funded by the Wellcome Trust*

## LSHTM CENTRE FOR HISTORY IN PUBLIC HEALTH: ANNUAL LECTURE Professor Simon Szreter (Cambridge)

*'How much VD was there in Georgian London? Can we estimate the population prevalence of STIs before the twentieth century?'*

**Tues. 19th November 2013, 5.30 – 6.45 pm**  
John Snow Lecture Theatre B, Keppel Street Building (Followed by a reception)



RSVP to Ingrid James 020-7927-2434 or [ingrid.james@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:ingrid.james@lshtm.ac.uk). For further information see <http://history.lshtm.ac.uk>

## SSH M WELLCOME LIBRARY NEWS

### Pre-Modern Medicine Seminar Series

Following a successful first year, the History of Pre-Modern seminar series returned this autumn with earlier speakers including Anita Guerrini and Francois Olivier Touati (For remaining seminars in the series see SEMINAR SERIES)

### Newly catalogued archive material

SSH M Gazette November 2013

A number of collections of archival material have recently been catalogued and are now open for research. **Offering insights into one of the founders of art therapy in Britain, the papers of Edward Adamson ([PP/ADA](#))**, contain material relating both to Adamson's pioneering work using art to treat mental illness and images of these artworks themselves. Adamson's papers include art therapy lecture notes, leaflets, articles, correspondence, notebooks, drawings and photographs and slides of works from the Adamson Collection.

The **papers of the virologist David Tyrell ([PP/TYR](#))**, mostly concern his work with the Common Cold Unit (CCU) and include correspondence from the general public providing cold cures and advice, correspondence with other scientists, laboratory notes, and other matters related to the running of the CCU. The papers also include details of Tyrell's work for the World Health Organisation and his involvement in the UK BSE epidemic in the 1980s and the subsequent public inquiry.

The **development of contact lenses is the focus of the papers of Frank Dickinson ([PP/FDN](#))**. Founder-Secretary of the International Society of Contact Lens Specialists, Dickinson was a key figure in the development of the microlens. Throughout his career he was concerned both with research on contact lenses and advocating their use, and in maintaining standards within his profession.



Image: From a booklet by Dickinson on "Contact lenses: the invisible glasses", featuring his daughter, Meriel. Wellcome Library reference PP/FDN/D/2.

**And changing attitudes towards organ and tissue transplantation**, in the medical community and more broadly, are documented in the **papers of the [British Transplantation Society \(SA/BTS\)](#)**. The papers provide an insight into the rapid medical advances in transplantation and immunology from the 1970s on, and bear witness to heated public debates about the ethics of the practice.

### **Medical Collection update**

As part of the [Wellcome Collection Development](#), we are taking the opportunity to simplify the arrangement of books in the Library by reducing both the number of distinct collections and the number of classification schemes in use. Books from the Medicine and Society Collection are being integrated into our other collections, and reclassified as they move.

The Medicine and Society Collection was established in the early 1990s, aimed at audiences interested in contemporary interactions between biomedical science, medicine, health and society. As it has grown and developed, it has increasingly overlapped in scope with both the [Medical Collection](#) and the [History of Medicine Collection](#), and the boundaries between the collections have become less distinct.

### **What is going where?**

We have already moved several hundred books into the History of Medicine Collection, including:

- Biography, memoir, illness narratives and fiction – texts and graphic novels
- Exhibition catalogues and art books
- Philosophy of science
- Religion

The remaining books – several thousand items – are currently being moved into the Medical Collection. These include:

- Science, especially biomedical science
- Medicine, illness, health and wellbeing, public health
- Biotechnology

- Social, ethical, economic and policy aspects of biomedicine and health
- Public attitudes and behaviour surrounding biomedicine and health
- Public engagement and popular science

### **How long will it take?**

We expect to have the books fully integrated into their new locations and classifications by the end of October 2013. You can still find specific books through the [Library catalogues](#), or just ask a member of staff if you need any assistance in the Library.

For regular updates on the work of the Wellcome Library, see our Blog (<http://blog.wellcomelibrary.org/>) or follow us on Twitter: (<http://twitter.com/wellcomelibrary>)

Ross MacFarlane, Research Engagement Officer,  
Wellcome Library  
[r.macfarlane@wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:r.macfarlane@wellcome.ac.uk)



## **ONLINE EXHIBITION**

### **“SURVIVING AND THRIVING: AIDS, POLITICS, AND CULTURE”**

The US National Library of Medicine has launched a travelling banner exhibition and an online adaptation of *Surviving and Thriving: AIDS, Politics, and Culture*. The exhibition examines the rise of AIDS in the early 1980's and the evolving response to the epidemic over the last 30 years.

*From the Press Release:*

‘Utilizing a variety of historic photographs, pamphlets, and publications, *Surviving and Thriving* is divided into five historical investigations, each of which highlights how different groups responded to AIDS. The companion website includes an extensive selection of NLM’s diverse poster collection about HIV/ AIDS. This “Digital Gallery” displays 238 posters grouped into fifteen thematic clusters, providing viewers new historical avenues to explore beyond the exhibition. The website is augmented by education resources that investigate the exhibition content.’

For more information, links and the full press release:

[http://www.nlm.nih.gov/news/surviving\\_and\\_thriving.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/news/surviving_and_thriving.html)



*Silhouette of crowds standing before the AIDS Memorial quilt in front of the Whitehouse in Washington ; advertisement by ACT-UP for an AIDS demonstration on Friday October 6th 1989. Colour lithograph by B. Rader, 1989. Credit: Wellcome Library.*

## PROJECT NEWS

**THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY'S UNEXPLORED RICHES IN MEDICAL HISTORY PROJECT** has received a second grant of £102,309 from the Wellcome Trust's Research Resources scheme.



*Image: Four boys giving themselves an injection at St George's Home for Diabetic Boys, Kersal, Lancashire, c1950s. Courtesy of The Children's Society Records and Archives Centre*

The project, now in its second year, has been making great advances in cataloguing and conserving the records of the residential

homes that The Children's Society ran for almost 100 years up until the 1970s and the case files of the children who stayed in them.

In particular, the project is focusing on the wealth of information about child health and the effects of poverty contained in these records. This will help to shed light on the history of childhood diseases, treatments, medical care and social health in the 19th and 20th centuries.

The first part of the project has found that before the establishment of the NHS, many families had to seek help from charities such as The Children's Society as they couldn't give their children vital medical treatment, and some families were pushed into poverty directly because of medical costs.

Historically, The Children's Society helped to provide medical treatment for these families, and the records shed light on the experiences of children with diseases such as tuberculosis, rickets, pneumonia and heart conditions among others. By creating an online archive catalogue and through conservation work the records will be widely accessible to medical, social and academic researchers the post-care community and the general public among others.

Thanks to the recent grant from the Wellcome Trust, which takes the current total funding from the Trust to £211,124, the Unexplored Riches in Medical History project is able to build on what has already been completed. Through the project, The Children's Society will be able to open up access to its valuable records and promote important research into medical history, social history, and the history of childhood poverty and neglect.

For more information about the Unexplored Riches in Medical History project, including a blog showcasing items found within the collection, please visit the project's web pages:

[http://www.hiddenlives.org.uk/unexplored\\_riches](http://www.hiddenlives.org.uk/unexplored_riches)

# BLOGWATCH

This time: a couple of unusual blogs by and about patients dealing with chronic illnesses. Please do keep sending recommendations for medical related blogs.



Wheelchair Kamikaze: Amsterdam Avenue

[WWW.WHEELCHAIRKAMIKAZE.COM](http://www.wheelchairkamikaze.com)

## The Rants, Ruminations, and Reflections of a Mad MStery Patient

In addition to a wealth of posts about life with MS, and his experiences of the medical establishment ride around New York with the Wheelchair Kamikaze up the 'bedlam' of Broadway, negotiating the baby carriage mafia and the kerb cliffs because on a Saturday afternoon "the quest for bagels

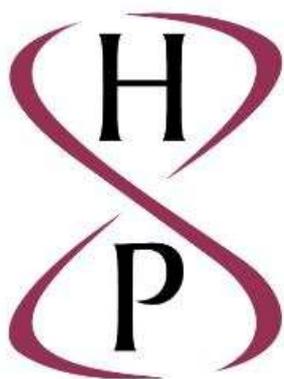
trumps physical wellbeing". Another video challenges: can he cover 0.6 miles in 5 minutes to reach an appointment?

[WWW.CANADADRUGSHORTAGE.COM](http://www.canadadrugshortage.com)

As a website run by historian and hematologist Jacalyn Duffin (thanks to Lisa Smith for the recommendation), the Canadian Drug Shortage blog tracks a nationwide shortage of generic drugs and posts patient stories about their problems finding medicines.

*'94% of pharmacists have to deal with shortages on at least a weekly basis and 78% had such a problem on their last shift. Over half (55%) claimed that the problem has had a significant negative impact on patient health.'*

<http://www.canadadrugshortage.com/tracking-the-problem-its-causes/> (January 2013)



**HISTORY AND POLICY** – [www.historyandpolicy.org](http://www.historyandpolicy.org)

Not a blog, but **History and Policy** connects historians, policy makers and the media, aiming to inform policy with historical research. Regularly updated with policy papers, opinion pieces and case studies, the website currently contains more than 140 papers. Contributions on medical themes include discussions of pandemics, maternity care, food and diet, public health, drugs, patient rights and the NHS, and a recent piece debating the good death. Sign up to the mailing list, or keep an eye out for current issues that you could inform with your research.

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