

History Notes

2011-2012

Editors: John Grabowski, John Baden, and Nathan Delaney

Report from Interim Department Chair, Alan Rocke

It's a privilege for me to write the chair's column for *History Notes* this year. After completing a five-year term as department chair, Jonathan Sadowsky has well earned a year's sabbatical, so I am filling in as Acting Chair this year. It is a particular honor to serve in this office, considering the quality of our faculty and students; and our wonderful office staff of Marissa Ross and Kalli Vimr makes the job so much easier than it would otherwise be.

This year we welcomed two new temporary faculty to the department. Dr. Garrett Washington is "on loan" to us from Oberlin College. Educated at Rice University and Purdue, Garrett is a Mellon postdoctoral fellow and visiting assistant professor; he is a Japan specialist and will be teaching modern Japanese history for us this year. Dr. Jenifer Barclay, our postdoctoral fellow



in African-American studies, comes to us from Michigan State and the University of Virginia. Jenifer is a U.S. historian specializing in the history of slavery, disabilities, and women and gender. We are delighted also to have Dr. Stephen Hall with us for a second year as visiting assistant professor, teaching African-American history. Finally, we again welcome two SAGES Fellows who are Ph.D. historians into our collegial family, Bernie Jim and Amy Absher. These fine historians join the regular crew of 19 (!) departmental historians. We can celebrate our growth in recent years!

Of course, at any given time several of our number are always on research grants or sabbaticals. In addition to Jonathan Sadowsky, Gillian Weiss is also on sabbatical leave this entire academic year, doing research in Paris and Marseilles. Having won a prestigious major NEH grant, Ted Steinberg will be on research leave all of calendar year 2012. Peter Shulman and Ken Ledford will be on teaching leave, in fall 2011 and spring 2012 respectively. And since Rhonda Williams is kept all too busy in her important work as director of the Social Justice Institute, we see her in Mather House less frequently than we would like.

It's a great time to study or work in this department. In recent years we have seen often multiple book publications every year; in 2011, books appeared by Gillian Weiss (with Stanford University Press) and Molly Berger (with Johns Hopkins University Press). And with the constant support and assistance of our friends in History Associates, we can look forward to a bright future ahead.

History Department Welcomes Post-Doctoral Fellow Jenifer Barclay!

Jenifer Barclay, Case Western Reserve's 2011-12 postdoctoral fellow in African American Studies, earned her Ph.D. in history from Michigan State University (May 2011) under the direction of Daina Ramey Berry. She completed her dissertation at the University of Virginia's acclaimed Carter G. Woodson Institute for Afro-American Studies where she was a pre-doctoral fellow from 2009-11. Her study, "'Cripples All! Or, the Mark of Slavery': Disability and Race in Antebellum America, 1820-1860," provides an innovative interpretation of American slavery and the construction of racial discourse using disability as a primary category of analysis.

Barclay's interest in the social dimensions of disability, associated with the history of medicine, make CWRU an ideal institution for her to undertake additional research. The generous fellowship program, directed by Rhonda Williams, enables her to participate in the truly collaborative spirit of academia by sharing her research with others and benefitting from their expertise. Over the course of next year, Barclay aims to draft a book proposal for the future publication of her study and complete additional research to strengthen her manuscript. Resources at the Dittrick Medical History Center as well as other archives in the greater Cleveland area such as those at Oberlin College, the College of Wooster, and the Cleveland Public Library will aid her in this task.

Barclay's forthcoming article explores the socially-constructed aspects of disability within the context of the African Diaspora. Specifically, it will consider the echoes of West African cultural beliefs about certain visible and invisible disabilities that resounded in the ethos and practices of enslaved people in North America. In the spring, Barclay will showcase her combined interests in a reading seminar for undergraduate and graduate students broadly framed around the topic of enslaved families, communities and culture in early America and give an open lecture to the CWRU community to discuss her research.



Mather House, the building the History Department shares with Art History, Classics, Political Science, and Religion



Faculty News.....

Molly W. Berger's new book, *Hotel Dreams, Luxury, Technology, and Urban Ambition in America, 1829-1928* was published in April 2011 by Johns Hopkins University Press. Berger also delivered a paper, "Technological Luxury in the American Hotel: Luxury Courts a Mass Market," at the 38th Symposium of the International Committee for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC) in Glasgow, Scotland in August 2011. She is serving as Interim Director of the College of Arts and Sciences' Office of Continuing Education. Berger served as Co-Chair of local arrangements with Alan Rocke for the co-located annual meetings of the Society of the History of Technology, the History of Science Society, and the Society for the Social Studies of Science held in Cleveland in early November 2012.

John Broich's first book *London: Water and the Making of the Modern City* is in the publication process and he is working on his second book on water engineering in the British Empire.

Daniel A. Cohen was on sabbatical for AY 2010-11, during which he lived in Massachusetts and worked on a book about the burning of the Charlestown convent. Cohen also published an article: "Rewriting *The Token of Love: Sentimentalists, Sophisticates, and the Transformation of American Girlhood, 1862-1940*," *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth* 4 (Spring 2011), and gave a conference paper: "Loving Women, Killing Men: 'Sapphic Slashers' and the Story-Paper Origins of American Lesbian Identity," Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Houston, TX, March 2011.

John Flores submitted an article, "Deporting Dissidence: Examining Transnational Mexican Politics, American Unions, and Civic Assimilation through the Life of a Mexican Immigrant, 1920-1954" (under review), and presented "The Urban Midwest Mexican Experience" at an NEH-sponsored workshop for community college faculty at the Western Reserve Historical Society. Professor Flores has also accepted an invitation to present at a symposium on Chicago's Mexican-origin Community hosted by the Latino Studies Program at Northwestern University.

John J. Grabowski presented a paper "Generational Change and Diasporic Challenges" at the conference on Inter-generational Differences as a Challenge for the Slovenian Emigrant Communities and the Slovenian Communities in Neighbouring Countries in Comparative Perspective in Ljubljana, Slovenia, June 2011. His publications during the past year include an article "Cleveland: Economics, Images and Expectations" which was published on-line on the Teaching Cleveland website and in the *Cleveland History and Economics Journal*, and "Turkish Immigration to America, 1870-Present" which has been accepted for publication in the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of U.S. Immigration History*, by ABC-CLIO.

Marixa Lasso spent the summer of 2011 at the U.S. National Archives working on a new book project on the history of La Zona. A summary of her AHR, "Race, War and Nation in Caribbean Colombia," was translated into Portuguese and published in journal *Estudios Ibero-Americanos*. Her article "Poblacion y Sociedad" was published in the edited collection *América Latina en la Historia Contemporánea: Colombia Vol 1: 1808-1830*. MAPFRE, 2011. The Spanish magazine *La Aventura de la Historia* gave this Collection the award for best editorial project in 2011. She recently traveled to Colombia to give a talk about theater, satire, race and politics during the Independence period at the Conference "Arts, Society and Culture in Bolivar's Colombia 1770-1830."

In the past year, **Ken Ledford** commented on a panel at the Eleventh Biennial Lessons and Legacies Conference on the Holocaust, called "The Struggle of Nazis and Jews to Shape German Law before and after the Holocaust," presented a paper titled "Mass Murderers Uncover Mass Murder: The Germans and Katyn, 1943" as part of the conference "Katyn: Justice Delayed or Justice Denied?" at the CWRU School of Law; and delivered two talks at the Annual Meeting of the German Studies Association, "From Submission to Publication: Journal Editors Discuss the Editorial Process" and "Judicial Honor, Legal Culture, and Social Boundaries in Imperial Germany" as part of a panel called "Legal Cultures and the Trial in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Germany." He published book reviews in *German History* and the *Law and History Review*. He continues to edit *Central European History*, to serve on the Board of Editors of the *Law and History Review*, to serve as president of the campus chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, and also on the Publications Committee and Surrency Prize Committee of the American Society for Legal History. In 2010, he served as Co-Chair of the Program Committee for the ASLH Annual Meeting. He also continues to serve as Co-Director of the Max Kade Center for German Studies.

Faculty News...Cont'd.....

In Spring 2011, Ledford taught his regular course in the School of Law, "European Union Law," and co-taught with Martha Woodmansee of the Department of English the biennial "Dissertation Writing Seminar" with eleven bright students from humanities departments in the College. During Fall 2011, he is teaching a new advanced undergraduate course, HSTY 333: Reading *Capital*: Political Economy in the Age of Modern Industry. In Spring 2011, he received for the twelfth time a student nomination for the Carl F. Wittke Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching.

Alan Rocke's latest book, *From the Molecular World: A Nineteenth-Century Science Fantasy*, is in press at Springer Verlag and is scheduled to appear in March 2012. It is a richly annotated translation of a clever and amusing fantasy about the world of molecules, which appeared in 1882 from the pen of the scientist and historian Hermann Kopp (1817-1892). Rocke was invited to present the opening keynote address at the 15th Summer Symposium of the International Society for the Philosophy of Chemistry in August 2011 in Bogota, Colombia, and in October he gave colloquia at CWRU in the Department of Pharmacology and in the Department of Chemistry. In March 2012 he will present colloquia in the Departments of History and of Chemistry at Florida State University. Finally, together with Molly Berger he served as co-chair of local arrangements for the joint annual meetings of the History of Science Society, the Society for the History of Technology, and the Society for Social Studies of Science in downtown Cleveland in early November, where he presented a paper.

Jonathan Sadowsky, after serving 5 years as department chair, is now on sabbatical leave. He was invited to give public talks at Washington University (St. Louis) and Yale University this year. Sadowsky authored a chapter in Paula Viterbo and Kalala Ngalamulume, eds., *Medicine and Health in Africa: Multidisciplinary Perspectives* and an entry in Henry Louis Gates, Jr., and Emmanuel Akyeampong, eds., *Dictionary of African Biography*. Sadowsky also completed a three-year term on the editorial board of *The Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, and will continue to serve on the editorial board of *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*.

Ted Steinberg was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship for his book about landscape change in the New York metropolitan region, 1609 through 2009. He will be on leave from the university during the calendar year 2012 finishing this project, which he began in 1990. This past February he was elected president of the CWRU chapter of the American Association of University Professors, a post he has used to try to call attention to issues of academic freedom and shared governance.

Renee Sentilles co-authored two articles with CWRU students: With Laura Ansley, "American Theater and Civil War," in Zoe Trodd and Maggie Morehouse, *Civil War in American Life and Culture*, (Routledge, 2012). With Katie Callahan, "Beauty Over the Centuries—Female," *Encyclopedia of Body Image and Human Appearance* (London: Elsevier, 2012). Sentilles also attended the Berkshire Conference on Women's History (UMass, June) where I gave a paper: "Tomboys, Girl Sports, and Western Pulp Fiction, 1860s-1900."

Graduate Student News.....

In April, **Sam Duncan** presented his paper, "Bottled Water Taxonomy: Defining Nature and Neoliberalism," at the 2011 annual conference of the American Society for Environmental History in Phoenix, AZ.

Nathan Delaney presented a paper in Detroit at the North American Labor History Conference in October 2011 entitled: "On God's Authority: The Origins of Community Unionism in Early Thirties Toledo."

Lynne Graziano presented a paper in March 2011 at the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science (SAHMS). The paper was titled "'Make it All Slick, and Then Make it Woosh:' H.G. Wells' Tono-Bungay and Marketing Medicine." Lynne was also appointed by SAHMS to their Board of Directors.

Elise Hagesfeld attended a conference on Childhood Studies at Rutgers University, and had a paper accepted to the annual conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA), entitled "Diversifying Faith Based Social Services, or from Orphanage to Child Welfare Agency: How the Children's Homes of the National Benevolent Association (Disciples of Christ) became Community Based Child Welfare Agencies."

Graduate Student News...Cont'd.....

Elizabeth Salem is entering her seventh year in the Ph.D. program and completed her comprehensive exams in May. During the summer, Beth again served as a grader for the Advanced Placement United States History Exam reading in Louisville, KY. This fall, she is working as a research assistant and is beginning work on her dissertation.

Stephanie Liscio co-taught a seminar over the summer on incorporating Negro League baseball history into American history classrooms. The seminar was in conjunction with Ball State University at their Indianapolis campus. She has also been doing work for the soon-to-open Mob Museum in Las Vegas and is the Cleveland Indians blogger for ESPN.com's SweetSpot - itspronouncedlajaway.com.

Katie Schroeder spent her 2011 summer in upstate New York exploring cemeteries and working on her Master's thesis. Katie also became acquainted with the Westchester County Historical Society, the Ulster County Archives and Records Center, the Town of Olive Archives, the Haviland Hiedgard Historical Collection, and a number of New York libraries.

Jesse Tarbert successfully defended his master's thesis, "Scandal and Reform in Federal Veterans' Welfare Agencies: Building the Veterans' Administration, 1920-1932."

Jonathan Wlasiuk built a curriculum with Dr. Ben Sperry at Cuyahoga County Corrections Center, a maximum security prison in downtown Cleveland that brings a liberal arts education to prisoners. Wlasiuk successfully defended his dissertation "Refining Nature: The Environmental History of Standard Oil in the Kerosene Age, 1863-1920" on September 26 and will be presenting at the American Society of Environmental History in Madison in March 2012.



Welcome New Graduate Students.....

Daniel Belczak has come to the department from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh after finishing his M.A. in History. The title of his thesis was "Punishment Ideology and Execution Sermons in New England, 1674-1825." Belczak's main areas of interest include American colonial and legal history.

Matthew Bishop has joined the graduate program in pursuit of his Ph.D. in American History. Previously, he attended the University of Cincinnati (M.A.) and Thomas More College (B.A.).



Scott Lillard majored in history at Indiana University Bloomington where he graduated with departmental honors and also minored in Religious Studies. After graduation he worked at the Tennessee State Library and Archives where he supervised their Supreme Courts records project, a long term project directed toward the digitization of cases from the higher court from its inception until the 1950s. At Case Western he currently studies nation-states and nationalism with respect to political economy and industrial technology. His current investigations concern the role of transportation technologies, railroads, canals and turnpike roads, in creating truly national markets and thus an incentive for the larger polities that became modern nation-states. His interests include American, German and British history.

Katherine E. Schaub completed a B.A. in History and Psychology at Case Western Reserve University in 2009. She has returned this year to pursue an M.A. in History. Her academic interests include the History of Medicine, Gender and Bioethics.

History Student Awards...



Kelvin Smith Library—Home away from Home for many History students

Graduate Student Prizes and Awards for 2010-2011

The Ubbelohde Award for the best teaching assistant during the last year:

Elise Hagesfeld

History Associates Fellowship recipients:

Erik Miller; Emily Hess; Ryan Chamberlain

The Kranzberg Prize goes to the graduate student with the best M.A. thesis:

Geoff Schotter

The Frank R. Borchert, Jr. Prize in History for the best dissertation or thesis by a student in the History Department, with preference to topics related to education, architecture, music, and U.S. History, 1900-1940:

Jesse Tarbert

Kathy Salem Award:

Elise Hagesfeld

Ph.D. and Master's Degree Graduates, 2011

Ph.D. Graduates:

Liz Bly

M.A. Graduates:

Ian Harten

Jesse Tarbert

Geoff Schotter

Undergraduate Student Prizes and Awards for 2010-2011

DONALD GROVE BARNES AWARD to a senior for excellence in research and writing of history:

Aaron Byers; Evan Cook; Yi Chen.

CLARENCE H. CRAMER AWARD for excellence in research and writing of history:

Joseph Verbovsky

ANNIE SPENCER CUTTER PRIZE to a senior for outstanding achievement in history (by custom to a woman):

Kathryn Goldberg

SIGMA PSI PRIZE IN HONOR OF ELBERT J. BENTON for excellence in history:

Mark Zucker; Gillian Seaman

JOHN HALL STEWART PRIZE for excellence in historical studies:

Elliot Schwartz; Emily Sparks

THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT AWARD for exceptional achievement:

Katherine Callahan; Caitlin Cipicchio

Lectures and Programs 2010-2011

During the 2010-2011 year the Department once again hosted a rich offering of lectures and colloquia. The programs provided opportunities for faculty, graduate students and friends of the department to engage with scholars whose work touched on a number of topics and historical issues. Those programs are detailed in the listing which follows.



Dr. Bertram Wyatt-Brown

September 21, 2010, **Dr. Bertram Wyatt-Brown**, renowned historian of the American South and a former member of the department presented the annual Ubbelohde Lecture “Murder by Duel,” Welch, West Virginia, 2009: A Historian's Experience

Professor Paul Gootenberg of SUNY Stony Brook.



September 27, 2010, **Dr. Paul Gootenberg** of SUNY Stony Brook presented a lecture entitled, “The Pre-Columbian Era of Drug Trafficking in the Americas, 1945-1973”

October 7, 2010, **Dr. Zebulon Miletsky**, Postdoctoral Fellow in African American Studies presented a work in progress talk.

October 14, 2010, **Dr. Nina Rattner Gelbart** of Occidental College presented the annual Anton and Rose Zverina Lecture at the Dittrick Museum. Her topic was "Birthing a Nation: Mme du Coudray and the practice of midwifery in Enlightenment France."



Allen Memorial Medical Library

Lectures and Programs 2010-2011 continued.....

October 18, 2010, **Professor Julio Cesar Perez Hernandez**, Cuban architect and urban planner spoke on “Havana: From Colonial Town to Cosmopolitan Caribbean City.”

October 22, 2010, The History Club sponsored a lecture by graduate student **Michael Metsner** entitled “‘Help One Another’ Generational Conflict and Racial Solidarity in Black Cleveland, 1906-1911.”

November 14, 2010, The department and Bioethics and History co-sponsored a talk by **Professor Susan Lederer** from the University of Wisconsin, "A is for Atom, B is for Blood Type: Medical Preparedness for Atomic Attack in 1950s America."



Professor Julio Perez Hernandez



December 2, 2010, **Professor Ted Steinberg** presented a work-in-progress talk at the departmental colloquium series.

April 8, 2011, **Dr. Jeanne Theoharis**, professor of political science and endowed chair in women’s studies at Brooklyn College of CUNY presented a guest lecture for the Postdoctoral Fellowship in African American Studies: "A Life History of Being Rebellious: Rosa Parks and the Black Power Movement."

Professor Theodore Steinberg

April 15, 2011, **Dr. Zebulon Miletsky**, the 2010-2011 Postdoctoral Fellow in African American Studies presented the 3rd annual lecture for the fellowship program: "‘I Yield My Birthright To No One’: Passing and the Van Houten Trial in Boston."

April 21, 2011, **Dr. Stephen Hall** presented a work-in-progress talk at the departmental colloquium series.

April 22, 2011, The History Club sponsored a lecture by doctoral student **James Johnson**, entitled “Rockets and the Red Scare: Frank Malina and American Rocketry, 1936-1946.”



Professor Susan Lederer



Dr. Zebulon Miletsky

The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History

by John Grabowski, Editor, *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*

The staff of the *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History/Dictionary of Cleveland Biography* focused on two major tasks during the past academic year – creating and updating articles in the on-line edition (<http://ech.case.edu>) and designing an entirely new look for the website.

During the year Michael Metsner, the Senior Associate Editor, continued his work in updating, revising and creating new entries relating to African-American history in northeastern Ohio. The work he had done in researching his masters thesis provided a solid basis for enriching the Encyclopedia's coverage of this topical area. John Baden, Junior Associate Editor focused his efforts on enhancing a number of entries relating to major Cleveland neighborhoods. His masters thesis research also proved of enormous value to his major revision and expansion of the article on Cleveland's Cedar Central area. John also undertook the job of redesigning the website. Working closely with James Nauer of Information Technology Services, he has produced a stunning new design which will premiere in late October, 2011.

At the end of the academic year, having completed his two-year tenure, Michael left the Encyclopedia staff. Nathan Delaney then joined John Baden as the new Besse Fellow/Junior Associate Editor for *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*. Nathan's work in the coming year will center on the creation and updating of entries relating to labor history.

The coming year, 2012, will mark the 25th anniversary of the publication of the first edition of the *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*. The editor and the staff will use this occasion to raise the profile of the project. The pending release of the redesigned website will mark the beginning of this effort. Editor, John Grabowski, will be making presentations about the Encyclopedia at the Baker Nord Center for the Humanities and, in April 2012, will be presenting a paper at a panel discussing urban encyclopedias at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians.

News and Events from the Dittrick Medical History Center

by James M. Edmonson, Chief Curator

Back to basics: Knowing our collections, and sharing that knowledge

I am struck by a gratifying recent trend in the medical museum field: a call for getting back to the basic task of knowing and understanding our collections, specifically the artifacts in our care. Despite the importance of new media for sharing information and forging networks, the web and social media place us at two, three, or more media generations from the original object. Curators enjoy the distinct privilege of getting to know things tactilely, and not merely visually. We're not constrained to viewing things through the vitrine of a display case. But for the museum-going public, artifacts cannot be touched and experienced in this way.

There are exceptions, of course. I recall visiting the British Museum on a day when they had set up a card table and chair in a gallery, and a museum staffer sat there with an array of golden coins on plain view. Visitors (including me) were invited to hold the coins, while the docent explained its value and worth. The heft of such a small lump of precious metal astonished. But yet more surprise and insight registered when I learned that with that coin I could buy a slave boy in early Roman Britain. Suddenly it took on new and poignant meaning; it was no longer inert.

A "back to basics" call for medical museums recently came from Ken Arnold (Wellcome Collection) and Thomas Söderqvist (Medical Museion), who presented their "manifesto" for museum exhibitions in September 2010 at the European Association of Museums of the History of Medical Sciences (EAMHMS) in Copenhagen. Arnold and Söderqvist published their well-received manifesto in the February issue of *Museums Journal*, and Danny Birchall reproduced it in the Wellcome blog after that. They called for research-driven exhibits, urging that "Curators should use exhibitions to find things out (for themselves and for their visitors) and not just regurgitate what is already known." They also admonished against artifice and over-production, where media detract from scrutiny and appreciation of artifacts. Simplicity, honesty, a sense of wonder, and revelation should be hallmarks of exhibitions presenting our collections, they contended.

Colleagues in medical museums have responded to the urgings of Arnold and Söderqvist, and are seeking new ways to appreciate and understand artifacts, and to share those insights. The Medical Museion in Copenhagen, for example, will host a workshop entitled "The Sensuous Object" in late September. In the call for papers, Lucy Lyons, the workshop organizer, states what they aspire to achieve: *How we experience and understand objects as sensuous objects that have been realized, produced, consumed through and by our senses, and how they impact on us and how we impact on them, are just a few of the expected discussion topics. By inviting participants to choose actual objects and use them as central to their presentations, the aim is to challenge established concepts and reveal new possibilities in our experiencing of and understanding through objects, using sensuous approaches.*

In a similar vein, Thomas Schnalke, head of the museum at Berlin's Charité has issued a call for papers for the 2012 EAMHMS Congress entitled "Hidden Stories. What do medical objects tell and how can we make them speak?" Schnalke explains what this quest entails:

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Our greatest understanding and appreciation of objects in the Dittrick collections does indeed emerge when we fashion exhibitions. This invariably entails doing in-depth research, more so than is ever apparent to the museum visitor. We'll delve into a new area, or revisit ones once thought familiar, but that we had only barely touched upon. That's happening right now, as we refurbish the balcony display of diagnostic instruments. I'll share some of what we've learned later in the newsletter. For the moment, just let me say that it's the collections of artifacts that really make this place special, and worth returning to again.

Breaking News

Percy Skuy endows lecture

I am pleased to announce that Percy Skuy has donated the funds to endow a lecture on the history of contraception at the Dittrick. This lecture will be officially known as "The Percy Skuy Lecture on the History of Contraception Through the Ages" and will debut in 2012. I will follow up with more details when they are in hand.

When we first discussed the prospect of the Skuy Collection coming to the Dittrick, our conversations centered on how it could become a great catalyst for change. It has done this admirably, particularly buoyed by the new connections and collaborations that followed the opening of the exhibition gallery in September 2009. We've aspired to keep alive the interest and enthusiasm engendered by the Skuy Collection, particularly by hosting lectures and temporary exhibitions on contraception and related issues. But supporting this in a meaningful and assured way called for more resources. That support is now in hand thanks to Percy Skuy's generous gift. This endowment will enable us to bring scholars of the highest caliber to the Case campus, for lectures to be enjoyed by members of the CMLA, friends of the Dittrick, the students and faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences, and our growing audience in the greater Cleveland community. Percy has again proved that he's the kind of donor and patron that museum directors dream of. We thank him for this essential act of stewardship.



The Lowman Room of the Allen Memorial Medical Library

Lectures and exhibits

Lecture by Lisa Rosner on Burke and Hare

Join us on Thursday, October 27 for the lecture "The True and Horrid Story of Burke and Hare" by Lisa Rosner. Rosner is Professor of History and Director of the Honors Program at Stockton College in New Jersey, and the author of *The Anatomy Murders, Being the True and Spectacular History of Edinburgh's Notorious Burke and Hare and of the Man of Science Who Abetted Them in the Commission of Their Most Heinous Crimes* (2009). The lecture will discuss the notorious murder case of William Burke and William Hare, who murdered 16 people and sold their cadavers to an anatomy lecturer, Dr. Robert Knox. The case was the first serial killing to become an international media sensation, 60 years before Jack the Ripper. But questions still persist: Why did the pair turn to murder? What did Dr. Knox know, and when did he know it? And what can we find out about the lives of the victims? Join us for the lecture at 6:00PM in the Zverina Room of the Dittrick to learn the answers to these questions. A reception will follow at 7:00PM in the museum galleries. Should be a fun lead-up to the Halloween weekend!

Additionally, for the occasion of Rosner's lecture, we will feature (in the Castele Gallery) a reprise showing of the Dittrick's exhibition, "Haunting Images: Dissection, photography, and American medicine." This exhibition features photographs from the award-winning book, *Dissection: Photographs of a Rite of Passage in American medicine, 1880-1930* (Blast Books, 2009). The exhibition will open in September and be up through October 31.

2011 Zverina Lecture:

Mary Fissell on *Aristotle's Masterpiece*

The most widely read book on sex and birth, in print for over 250 years, is the subject of Mary Fissell's lecture, "Something Borrowed, Something Blue: The Strange History of *Aristotle's Masterpiece*." In the 2011 Zverina Lecture, Professor Fissell will examine the history of one of the most important popular medical books in English. First published in 1684, *Aristotle's Masterpiece* was still for sale, largely unaltered, in the 1930s. Neither by Aristotle nor a masterpiece, the book offered advice to women about pregnancy and childbirth, spiced up with a racy poem and sensational images of monster babies. Fissell, professor at Johns Hopkins University and editor of the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, is currently preparing a book on *Aristotle's Masterpiece*, so we'll be getting a privileged preview of her forthcoming work. Join us for the event on Thursday, November 10, lecture beginning at 6:00PM in the Powell Room, followed by a reception in the Dittrick at 7:00PM.

On the occasion of the 2011 Zverina lecture by Mary Fissell we will open a companion exhibition entitled "Sex, mothers, and monsters in *Aristotle's Masterpiece*: How the most popular book on conception explained the mysteries of the female body from 1684-1930." This exhibition, curated by Gillian Seaman, CWRU history and pre-law senior, reveals that *Aristotle's Masterpiece* was not merely another text in the already flooded market on conception. Rather, it provided a markedly frank discussion of sex and it tapped into anxiety regarding paternity, obsession with monstrosity, and concern over infant delivery. Ms. Seaman's exhibit content is based upon Mary Fissell's scholarship, and displays original copies of *Aristotle's Masterpiece* and other works on conception, gestation, and birth that provided its inspiration.

Dissection wins ALHHS award

This past April, when the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) met in Philadelphia, they gave their award for best monograph to *Dissection: Photographs of a Rite of Passage in American medicine, 1880-1930* (Blast Books, 2009). My co-author John Harley Warner and I are sincerely gratified by receipt of the ALHHS award and hasten to add that no small measure of credit goes to Laura Lindgren and Ken Swezey of Blast Books, who produced a beautiful volume that has attracted favorable notice and sold well enough to merit a second printing. Kudos to one and all.

Collections and research:

Aitken collection cataloged

Cataloging is now complete for the H. F. Aitken collection of biomedical art, which came to the Dittrick in December 2009, with the support of the CMLA Board of Trustees. The Aitken collection comprises some 2000+ sketches, drawings, paintings, and prints by Hamlet Frederick Aitken (1872 - 1939), a medical illustrator from Massachusetts. Each item in the collection had to be identified, described, scanned or photographed, and entered into our collection database. For help with all this we turned to CIA biomedical art student Alyssa Oglesbee, who took on the task during her summer internship at the Dittrick, again funded by the CMLA. Alyssa knows art and media (pencil, ink, pastel, print, &c), as well as anatomy, so it proved a great match. Jennifer Nieves taught her the ins and outs of cataloging, while Laura Travis guided her in scanning and photography. Alyssa thus learned valuable new skills (isn't that what an internship is all about?), and we got an important collection cataloged. We look forward to mounting a major exhibition of the Aitken collection in the near future, with Alyssa curating the event. It's yet another example of the fruits that come from collaborating with the CIA Biomedical Art program headed by Amanda Almon.

Researchers using archives, &c

Deanna Day, a grad student from Penn's history of science program, spent two days at the Dittrick doing dissertation research in the history of clinical thermometry, particularly its use in the home setting. She came here to look at artifacts and pamphlets that she tracked down through WorldCat, where records for our collections reside. This online cataloging was a product of the OCLC/MeSH project that Patsy Gerstner headed in the 1990s.

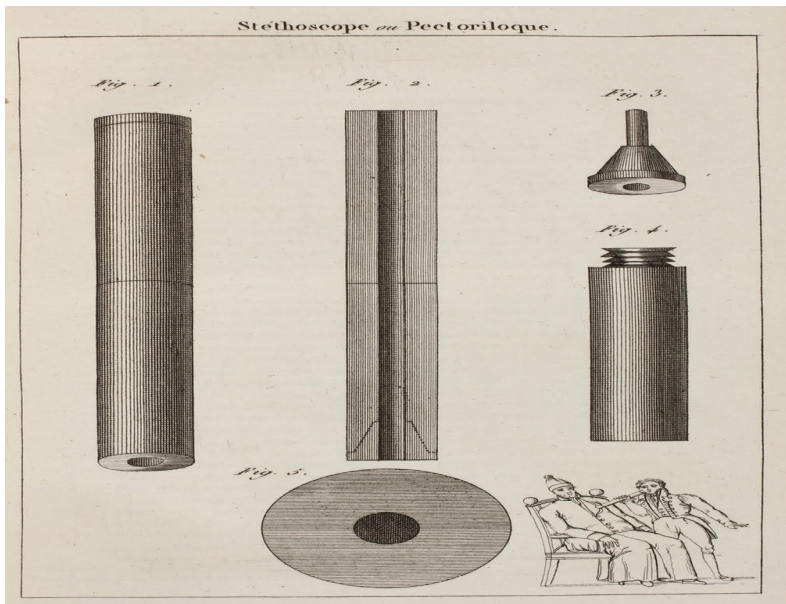
Hidden in plain view: insights from the Dittrick collections.

Earliest image of the stethoscope in use.

While working on the revamp of our diagnostic instrument gallery, prompted by the gift of Don Blafox's incomparable collection, I sought early images of the stethoscope in use. I knew that a print dating to 1819 appeared in Jackie Duffin's *To See With a Better Eye* (1998). She cited its source as an article on "pectoriloque" by F. V. Mérat in the *Dictionnaire des sciences médicales* vol. 40 (1819).

I checked our online catalog and found that we didn't have that work. Darn, struck out, or so I thought. That is, until I found myself in the office of Dzwinka Holian in August. There, in her office, sat the complete 60 volume run of the *Dictionnaire des sciences médicales*. Hiding in plain view, waiting for my visit to chat with Dzwinka.





The *Dictionnaire des sciences médicales* is a landmark work of French medical literature of the 19th century. It turns out that we are one of two libraries in the United States (and 22 worldwide) to own this remarkable publication. Who knew?

When we look at the full original plate (at right) we can see that the portion showing the stethoscope in use is a pretty funny little afterthought, a very small sketch, relegated to the lower right corner. One has to wonder how this came to pass, but we can only speculate.

The thing I like best about this whole scenario is that we have in hand a piece of the true cross, as it were, from the very dawn of modern physical examination with instruments. This is probably the earliest image of auscultation. It's not an exact mechanical rendering, but a rather whimsical take on the physician-patient encounter, with period charm and flavor. And if we read the rigid body language of the patient, he clearly wasn't very thrilled about being auscultated with the stethoscope.

The first monaural stethoscope in Cleveland?

As we reconsidered which stethoscopes to present in the balcony display, I took a close look at every one in our collection, as well as those donated by Don Blaufox. We're talking maybe 150 monaural stethoscopes in all. One cedar stethoscope appeared to be a Piorry model and it bore a very early accession number. This led me to wonder, could this be the very first stethoscope used in Cleveland? The museum's accession records revealed that it belonged to the Cushing family, either to Erastus who came to Cleveland in 1835 or to his son, Henry Kirke Cushing (father of neurosurgeon Harvey Cushing).

Pierre Adolphe Piorry developed percussion and introduced the pleximeter (*le plessimètre*) in 1826 to outline internal organs of the chest, as presented in *De la percussion médiante* (1828). He also crafted a stethoscope that featured an ivory pleximeter as part of its design, as seen here. Piorry incorporated a detachable ivory ear-piece (Fig. 4) and pleximeter (Fig. 5). Piorry added an extension to distance the physician from patients who bathed rarely or had fleas. How did Piorry's patients take to being percussed? Not very well, especially the faint-hearted ["des sujets très-pusillanimes"]: "In general, the sick like our explorative endeavors very little; they are more disposed to complaint than to patience." To do research on human subjects, Piorry and colleagues therefore experimented upon cadavers; they filled voids in the chest with water and percussed the body to assess the pleximeter's use as a diagnostic tool. Piorry's cadaver research facilitated more precise location of voids, fluids, and lesions in living patients, which he mapped on diagrams of the chest and abdomen.

The Cushing stethoscope had been on display since 1976, when the balcony diagnostic gallery opened. But its pleximeter sat in storage, unseen and forgotten. When Don Blaufox visited recently we found it quite by chance. Don immediately recognized the pleximeter and brought the pieces back together again. This Fall they'll be featured, re-united, in the refurbished diagnostic instrument exhibition.

Generations of Clevelanders met Juno when they visited the Cleveland Health Education Museum. Now you can see her as you exit the elevator on the third floor of the Allen Library, the home of the Dittrick. Designed in 1926 by Franz Tschakert of the German Hygiene Museum in Dresden, Juno's clear plastic skin revealed the underlying skeleton, blood vessels, organs, nerves, and lymphatic system. Accent lighting and audio recording explained the body to museum visitors. This Juno arrived in Cleveland in 1952 and served as a backup for the main model on prominent display in the Health Museum. In 2007 the museum, by then known as HealthSpace Cleveland, merged with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and Juno remained in storage. Juno came to the Dittrick in May 2011.

Dates to remember:

October 27 : Lisa Rosner: "The True and Horrid Story of Burke and Hare."

November 10: Mary Fissell: "Something Borrowed, Something Blue: The Strange History of Aristotle's Masterpiece."

History Day 2007.....

by John Vacha, District 3 Coordinator

History Day 2011 was another banner year for District 3, the birthplace of History Day. Local history students did exceptionally well at the state and national contests, while the move of exhibits at the district level to the Western Reserve Historical Society received rave reviews. Four hundred area intermediate and senior high school students signed up for the District 3 contest. In a departure from years past, the exhibits category was moved from the Case Western Reserve campus to the Western Reserve Historical Society, co-sponsor of the local competition along with CWRU.

Close to a hundred tabletop exhibits were on view in the Crawford Rotunda and the Norton Gallery for judging in the morning and public viewing in the afternoon. "Students, parents, and teachers all agreed that the museum background made a perfect setting for the colorful displays," stated John Vacha, District 3 coordinator. Documentaries, performances, websites, and papers, as in the past, were judged at various sites on the campus of Case Western Reserve University, where History Day began in 1974. It was originated as a local history contest by the late David Van Tassel of CWRU's history department, who subsequently expanded it to a state and then a national competition.

District 3 students made impressive showings at both state and national levels this year. At Ohio History Day in Columbus, twenty-two out of thirty-six national finalists were from District 3. At National History Day in College Park, Maryland, Lukun Zhang of Shaker Heights High School and Anirudh Dasarathy from Hawken School took first and second place, respectively, in the Senior Individual Website category. Joan Thompson from Shaker Heights earned a second place in the Senior Paper category. Other students from Shaker Heights, Birchwood School, and Kirtland Middle School finished in the top fifteen places of their categories. In addition, Jonah Weinstein, also from Shaker, won a scholarship from the University of Maryland for his Senior Individual Performance.



Among the judges at the District 3 contest were Elizabeth Todd of the history department and graduate students David Bernatowicz and Elizabeth Salem. Catherine Borchert, Judith Cetina, Virginia Dawson, Roger Ingraham, and David Shriver of CWRU History Associates also joined the Board of Judges. Many volunteers from the Western Reserve Historical Society served as judges and organizers for the district contest, headed by Kim Snyder, Apryl Rashid, and Chad Malkamaki from the Department of Education. Major sponsors of the contest, besides WRHS and CWRU, included Cargill Deicing Technologies, Dominion, and the Reinberger Foundation.

History Day 2012 is scheduled for Saturday, March 24, 2012, at Case Western Reserve University and the Western Reserve Historical Society. Plans call for paper interviews as well as exhibits to take place at the museum, with other categories on the CWRU campus. "Next year's theme, 'Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in History,' is always a popular one," said Vacha. "It should have great appeal for students and their teachers." Those interested in volunteering as judges may contact Vacha at (216) 721-5722, x255, or [jvacha@wrhs.org].



History Associates' Tenth Year.....

The History Associates ushered in 2011 with a special dinner program at the Cleveland Skating Club. The featured speaker was Tim Daley, Executive Director of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, who spoke on "Restoring a Victorian Jewel: The Cuyahoga County Soldiers and Sailors Monument." On May 4th the Annual History Associates Fellowships Graduate Student Presentations were delivered with intelligence, insight, and enthusiasm by Ryan Chamberlain, Emily Hess and Erik Miller.

The fourth annual Ubbelohde Lecture was given on September 22nd by the eminent British Historian Linda Colley, the Shelby M.C. Davis 1958 Professor of History at Princeton University. She spoke to an overflow crowd about "Britain, the Written Constitution, and World History." The excellent presentation was followed by a reception where the members of the audience had an opportunity to talk with the distinguished speaker. Your contribution to the Ubbelohde Endowment Fund can assist in making this annual lecture series, given in memory of Carl Ubbelohde, a much admired professor and former chair of the CWRU History Department, self-sustaining in the years to come.

The History Associates also encourage you, if you have not already done so, to renew your membership for the 2011-2012 academic year. Remember that funds raised by the History Associates have supported grants to graduate students for Ph.D. dissertation research and prizes for outstanding work by undergraduates.

History Associates also offer special member events throughout the year. A dinner and talk is being planned for February 2012, and faculty member Dr. Wendy Fu will be addressing the History Associates this November. For more information about membership contact the Dean's office in the College of Arts and Sciences at 216.368.0097.



ArcelorMittal Steel plant in Cleveland

-----Support History Associates-----

“The History Associates fellowship allowed me to spend more of my time on my research in the history of space exploration. I presented a part of this research at the Society for the History of Technology conference in Pittsburgh and it was well received. I could not have done this without the support of History Associates.”

- Jim Johnson

“Many thanks for the generous History Associates grant. This provides me the opportunity to take the necessary research trips to San Diego State University and Temple for my dissertation. I’m very honored to be chosen as a recipient.”

- Emily Hess

Please enroll me as a member of CWRU History Associates, and send me your calendar of events as soon as possible. I am joining at the membership level indicated below.

- Annual Membership \$35-99
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