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HISTORY AND CUSTOMS

Many of us in the department spent the hottest weeks of summer worrying about the fates of two marvelous, historical artifacts, but the recent change of seasons brought welcome resolution. The first of these two historic treasures was restored earlier this month to its former glory – in part through the advocacy of the department’s first emerita faculty member, Nancy Hulston – while the second artifact just this last weekend, after a series of perilous brushes, finally found safe haven in the Clendening history of medicine collections, in part through the kindness of two KLM pilots and the leniency of the US Centers for Disease Control.

The first of these two artifacts is, of course, the Clendening Fountain, broken down by time and the elements and finally carted away to storage last year from its former, prominent location in the center of the Medical Center courtyard. The fountain’s restoration this month to a new place of pride in front of the medical school is worth celebrating. But the story of the second artifact is actually the more remarkable. We have to start there.

Dr. Marc Asher, adjunct faculty in our department, and other distinguished orthopedic surgeons around the world have long known about the existence in the Netherlands of a surgical specimen representing the earliest known European application of a pioneering, spinal stabilization system, the Harrington rods. To be precise, this “surgical specimen” is a human spine removed at autopsy and preserved – with the shiny, steel rods intact – from a young man operated on for placement of the rods in the 1960s. I did not, however, describe this historical artifact as a “human spine” when the US customs officer asked me what was in the large, padded plastic box I was trying to hand-carry into the United States. I said “museum artifact” – a half-truth, but I was pretty sure I would get the chance to say more. And, in fact, my subsequent description of the spine as “an early museum example of bones with a supporting steel rod of historical interest to my colleagues in the history of medicine” was also treated as euphemistic evasion, which I suppose it was. “Human?” the federal officer asked. Upon responding affirmatively, I heard those most disheartening of bureaucratic words, “Please step out of line, sir.”

I had done so much already in preparation for this moment, before my day started 20 hours earlier in my hotel in Prague, readying to go to the Vaclav Havel Airport. Hand-carrying a segment of human spine through three plane changes, two international airports, and US customs required preparation, of course, although I was not sure I had done enough. Before leaving Kansas I obtained from Dr. Robert Klein and other obliging authorities a number of nice letters with appropriate stamps and...
signatures explaining why I had this spine, and the wholly law-abiding nature of its origins. But later when I actually took the object personally in hand at a conference center in the suburbs of Prague, at the annual international meeting of spinal surgeons, I began right away to worry. My fistful of official documents seemed weak protection against the power of international air security to make my life unpleasant.

But at the start, luck and the KLM flight crew to Amsterdam were on my side. Although my measurements using a hotel centimeter-ruler suggested my bone box was compatible with aircraft overhead bin space, there are a lot of different overhead bins out there. And the ones on the KLM plane out of Prague were proving to be too narrow. Despite the flight attendant’s entreaties, however, I was not ready to surrender my precious bones to the cargo hold. In retrospect, I probably could have done a better job arguing my case, but I managed to stumble onto a promising path all the same. While discussing the curious and intriguing dilemma that we faced, the flight attendant and I gradually made our way to the front of the plane, where the rest of the polite Dutch aircrew joined in with suggestions. As departure time neared, the pilot finally made the offer. He found that by stacking his luggage on top of the co-pilot’s he could create a small space behind the pilot’s seat for my box. Problem over. I collected my box from the cockpit when we reached Schiphol airport in the Netherlands, happy for a moment, though my journey was just beginning.

After all, who knew that the Centers for Disease Control had partial jurisdiction over the transport of human remains? I actually passed up through several levels of US custom’s authority before it became clear to me that they knew this. By that point, I was already in one of those sparsely furnished cubicles behind the dark glass barriers that say “no entrance.” In truth, the customs folks were a lot like the Dutch aircrew, eager to explore a refreshingly novel problem concerning proper bureaucratic management. By this time, however, I was a lot less cheerful, after 20 hours in transit and still a long way from home, too nervous to sleep at all – but at least seated for the trans-Atlantic flight next to a congenial Belgian who kindly gave me a bracing “thumbs-up” when he saw me being escorted out of the custom’s line. So, being grumpy, I tried to push back with US Customs. I flashed my medical license from the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, which resulted only in being addressed as doctor as I continued to be detained, while my flight readied for Kansas City. I tried suggesting that although their concern over imported infectious agents was well founded, all the important pathogenic organisms had already entered the country on the unwashed hands of the people preceding me through the gates. “We just leave this all for the experts,” they offered politely, heading off to call their CDC connection. And somehow, there was indeed an agent at the CDC ready through the night for just such a phone call. I like to think that customs relayed to the CDC my compelling argument about “the biological implausibility” of infections on half-century-old bones. But I suspect that there were simply digitally searchable regulations in the CDC database specifying, “medically prepared human bones, older than 40 years – pass without further inquiry” – or terms to that effect. It was not too much longer before I found myself nodding off in a cab heading home again, with a box of bones at my feet – although my checked luggage stayed behind in Minneapolis as a parting reminder of the adventure.

Looking out my office window now, I am reminded to return in closing to the first of those endangered historical artifacts, the Clendening Fountain, which stands below my office window at the main entrance to the original KU Hospital building. This fountain has had long and strong ties to the department, dedicated to the memory of Logan Clendening soon after his death in
1945. When efforts to rehabilitate the old fountain proved impractical, Nancy Hulston, longtime champion of all elements of KUMC history, started to work. Her efforts were greatly helped by a serendipitous meeting. Through a strange coincidence of personal connections Dorothy Clendening’s nephew, Fred Glore, turned out to have a son marrying a Kansas City girl, and a flurry of emails arranged for the extended Glore family to drop by the library on the wedding weekend to see pictures of Aunt Dot. Dorothy, Logan’s wife, was a powerful motive force behind the institutional legacy of the Clendening Library and Museum and the fountain, preserving the memory of Logan’s influence at the KU Medical Center. Many of the rare volumes in the Clendening Library of the History of Medicine were purchased by Logan and Dorothy on their buying trips through Europe. The combination of Nancy Hulston and Fred Glore proved to an unstoppable version of Ms. Inside and Mr. Outside (with apologies to Army football). And thanks to Nancy’s appreciation for the nuances of departmental history and the Glore family connection, we have a new fountain, dedicated this time to Dorothy and Logan Clendening.
THE 2016 CLENDENING AND KING SUMMER FELLOWS by Julie Stark

Every year, the History and Philosophy of Medicine Department awards summer fellowships to a select group of first-year medical students based on proposals that they submit for research endeavors. The summer between 1st and 2nd year, these fellows literally go to the four corners of the earth to do research on their proposals. Based on what they learn, the fellows craft a presentation and a final paper, which are both due the fall of their 2nd year.

The money for these fellowships comes from funds endowed through the Kansas Endowment Association by Dr. Logan and Mrs. Dorothy Clendening, namesakes and founders of the History and Philosophy of Medicine Department, and also from funds set up by Mrs. Lynn King in honor of her husband, Dr. Charles King, KUMC 1972. We are amazed at what the fellows learn and share with the rest of us, and this year should be no exception. Clendening Summer Fellows are guided by co-directors Tarris Rosell, PhD, DMin and Sarah Hoehn, MD, MBe, FAAP; student coordinator Viktoriya Tulchinskaya (M3); and faculty mentors Christopher Crenner, MD, PhD; Carla Keirns, MD, PhD; K James Kallail, PhD; Fred Holmes, MD; and Tomas Griebling MD, MPH, FACS, FGSA. The fellows do an exemplary job and experience much growth.

Please see “Fall Schedule of Events” for a complete list of Clendening Summer Fellowship presentations, and all other upcoming fall events in the History and Philosophy of Medicine Department.

CLENDENING SUMMER FELLOWSHIP 2016 FELLOW EXAMINES BARRIERS TO HEALTHCARE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES by Eyad Gharaibeh

Three months have passed since my Clendening fellowship experience, yet the vivid emotional encounters with Syrian refugees have permanently altered my outlook on life. It is only after encountering less fortunate humans that I realized my moral obligations due to my position as a medical student in the United States. Fresh out of Kansas City, I traveled to the Fatih district of Istanbul, once known as Constantinople, the capital of the Roman Empire. After two hours trekking through the narrow side streets of this dense urban environment, I finally arrived at my destination – a small residential apartment converted into an outpatient clinic for Syrian refugees. I haggled my way through the cluster of sick
patients attempting to schedule an appointment with one of the physicians on staff. In front of me was a lady accompanied by her young five-year-old son wearing a prosthetic arm. They had come back to the clinic simply to give thanks for helping her child obtain a prosthetic limb. The mother was in tears explaining the massive psychological burden lifted off this young boy’s mind. “He hated playing with other kids because they would make fun of him, but now he feels welcomed and is excited to start school like a normal child.” This child is not a rare case but rather considered lucky to have survived the ongoing Syrian genocide that has claimed the lives of over 100,000 civilians while displacing millions more into refugee and orphan status.

My research project “Beyond Barriers – A Refugee’s Perspective of Healthcare” aimed to uncover the barriers to quality healthcare for Syrian refugees. Specifically, I sought to answer the questions “What are the barriers preventing Syrian refugees from accessing quality affordable healthcare in Turkey?” and “What adaptations are Syrian refugees utilizing to manage their non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and psychological trauma?” With every interview I conducted, common struggles turned into obvious patterns. Patients had different diseases but identical challenges. Language barriers and financial hardship were the most significant obstacles for patients seeking care in Turkish public health facilities. Each refugee patient was carrying a psychological burden that was influencing their overall wellbeing and ability to cope, a predictable outcome of war.

On the other side of the coin are the struggles of Syrian clinics. Their obstacles involve gaining permission to integrate into the Turkish healthcare system to be recognized as official institutions of care. Without integration into the country’s healthcare system, clinics are reliant on private donations, outdated medical equipment, and scarce access to medications. That also means Syrian patients cannot be referred to a public hospital. Yet even if they do get referred, they will not have Syrian physicians who can truly empathize with their complex medical situation. I was grateful to work with two organizations, the Ibn Al-Nafees humanitarian organization as well as Al-Balsam health clinic. Both of these organizations worked tirelessly into the night to provide healthcare and medications for as many patients as possible in any given day. What is unique about these clinics is that many of the staff and physicians themselves are refugees. They are also victims of war who acted on their sense of duty to serve their countrymen and fellow Syrians. Talking to many of the physicians and staff at both clinics made it quite clear that they themselves have gone through excruciating trauma in Syria. One pharmacist told me of his experience huddled in a bathroom with his pregnant wife for over 22 hours waiting for the government missiles to stop raining from the sky. They awoke the next day to find a majority of their neighbors killed. Being able to put aside one’s personal wellbeing in the service of others was something I truly admired and respected about the Syrian people.

My experience with refugees taught me about the importance of living beyond personal interest. It has left me constitutively aware of my privilege and in effect, my duty to act in support and aid of others. I left Turkey inspired by the determination of Syrians to overcome adversity by remaining hopeful in the face of tragedy. It is this hope that gives meaning to life and keeps us striving for a safer, healthier future.

Eyad Gharaibeh is a second-year medical student who was a Clendening Summer Fellow in Istanbul for 2016.
RALPH HERMON MAJOR LUNCHEON SEMINAR SERIES

As many are aware, the 2015-16 seminar series was dignified by a new title—the Ralph Hermon Major Luncheon Seminar Series. For all of the namesakes that grace and give honor to the Department’s various lectures and fellowships, Major’s name was strangely absent. Perhaps this is so because Major is in many ways still with us; there are few who knew him or who knew of him who can deny that something of his spirit remains within these old walls. This is all the more true for those touched by his enthusiasm for the history of medicine as well as his obligations as a humanist.

The Majorian legacy obtains in the Department’s mission and the various avenues through which it is conveyed. Yet, it is the Clendening that perhaps harbors that spirit in its most concentrated form. As I have come to know Dr. Major, mainly through his books and the stories relayed about him, the most authentic aspects of his personality seem to shine forth in the decades-long cultivation of his passion as a scholar and book collector. To be sure, his bibliophilic passion animated and gave shape to the collection’s core. This is further underpinned by his intimate yearning to know and understand the history of medicine and its various facets. A library is often a reflection of its owner’s intellectual interests, and perhaps even his or her personality. Yet there is something special about the Clendening. Maybe it’s the antiquity of the volumes that comprise its core; the details of its formation; or a combination of the two. Yet, for those of us who still believe in the magic of libraries and their abilities to inspire our efforts in seeking to understand the history of medicine, one may find that to work in the Clendening is also to commune with the spirit of Dr. Major and his own enthusiasm for that history. And so we thought it fitting to give the seminar an official name and to dignify the spirit of Dr. Major under whose watchful eyes our seminar proceeds.

With the new name in place, the Department joined with the Lunar Society in September 2015 to bring to campus Professor Ralph Rosen from the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Rosen, a classicist with interests in ancient medicine, lectured in front of a full Rieke Auditorium on “Medical Humanism in Galen’s Time.” I was delighted to see that Galen commands such a draw after 1800 years; but I also don’t underestimate the promotional abilities of Sonya Parashar and her co-presidents of the Lunar Society in doing much of the legwork for this well-attended event.

After a few years of trying to schedule a seminar with Dr. Susan Pingleton, we finally succeeded! In October, she led the seminar with a talk on the “Oral History of Female Professors at KUMC.” The talk, replete with video clips taken from interviews that Dr. Pingleton conducted, addressed several female clinicians and researchers who have left their mark on the institution over the last several decades. November’s seminar welcomed Dr. Allen Greiner who spoke on “History, Anthropology, and the Humanities: Does Critical Thinking Matter to Science in the Era of Personalized Medicine?” Dr. Greiner provided an interesting think-piece regarding the current deficiencies and health disparities in the U.S. health care system. His talk sought to probe possible solutions that avoid the reductionism of current trends while drawing upon a more interdisciplinary and collaborative approach, including a turn to the humanities.

Dan Ginavan returned for the first seminar gathering of the spring. His talk, “The Society Namesakes: Their Stories, Voices, and Connections” was a nice addition to the array
of homages given to the Department during the commemorative year of its seventy-fifth anniversary. The creative energies that Dan has devoted on behalf of the institution are well known to many of us and have produced an array of documentaries and departmental histories. In this talk, which is assembled in large part through oral histories, Dan reveals glimpses of the personalities of several KUMC doyens, which supplement and give life to their sometimes extraordinary professional vision.

During April’s seminar we happily welcomed Harold Braswell of Saint Louis University with “How Far Back Do You Go? Incorporating History into Bioethics.” In a variation of our usual format, Dr. Braswell led a roundtable session addressing a recent bioethics case, which generated a lively and interesting discussion. The 2015-16 series concluded with Ryan Fagan and his talk “Biological Research and the Obligations of a Teacher: The Case of C. E. McClung.” The influence of McClung during the early years of zoological and cytological research at the University of Kansas was remarkable. Nancy Hulston had long suggested that a tribute to McClung and his influence as a teacher would be a fitting, if also small, commemorative piece for the University’s sesquicentennial.

The Department looks forward to the 2016-17 series, and we have already commenced with Dr. Jared Grantham’s “Late Rounds on Fourth Floor Delp: Two Years in Internal Medicine Residency as Trainee and Care-giver to Doctors Major and Delp.” The stories of Dr. Delp’s gruff and impatient manner with his medical students never seem to disappoint, a fact made obvious by the large attendance of the September seminar.

We hope to see many of you in the coming months as the series progresses. More details will follow as each seminar date approaches,

but here is a brief list of seminar presenters for 2016-17:

**12 October** Carla Kierns, M.D., Ph.D.
**16 November** Father Jerry Spencer
**15 December** Linda Voigts, Ph.D. (UMKC)
**TBA** William Jewell, M.D.
**19 April** Matthew Reeves, Ph.D. candidate (UMKC)
**TBA** (Early June) Don Lambert

Ryan Fagan, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor

**AMERICAN NURSES IN THE GREAT WAR**

As we approach the centenary of America’s involvement in the First World War (1917-1919), it is important to recognize that the single representation of mercy in this horrible war was
the Red Cross nurse. Beyond her nursing skills, she was every wounded soldier’s surrogate mother, wife, sweetheart, or sister. She was the subject of popular songs, posters, and newspaper and magazine articles. Thus, more than 20,000 American registered nurses served with the Red Cross and the United States military between 1917 and 1919, half of them in France and Belgium. Many were decorated for bravery and more than 500 of these women died while in military service.

Seeking to recognize these wonderful women, Grace E. F. Holmes, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and of Preventive Medicine Emerita, has a book coming out on 6 April 2017, the one-hundredth anniversary of America’s declaration of war against Germany. North Dakota State University Press is the publisher and the American Legion Auxiliary is the source of the data and will be the principal sponsor of the book, North Dakota Nurses Over There; 1917-1919. Dr. Holmes has spent three years organizing and collating the records of 225 North Dakota registered nurses who volunteered for service in this bloodiest of wars. To a woman, they were motivated by patriotism and caring for the sick and wounded “boys” who served their country far from home. As the author presents their stories, some bring tears to the reader’s eyes and some even find humor in the stress of the hardship of battle conditions.

The Department of the History of Medicine has had a stake in this endeavor from its very beginning, particularly through Ms. Dawn McInnis, Rare Books Librarian, who provided the initial focus for the study. The readers of North Dakota Nurses Over There will be substantial in number and it is unlikely that any other book on WW-I nurses will equal its scope and depth.

**MONTELLO RETIREMENT**

Martha Montello, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History and Philosophy of Medicine, will be retiring from KUMC this year. She has taught with the Department since 1997 and has co-chaired both the Pediatric Ethics Committee and the Ethics Committee for KUMC. She
has co-directed ICM 900 since its inception, taking the lead with the ethics curriculum for the course. She also served as Director for the Clendening Summer Fellowship, 1998-2014, and chaired the Bartholome Lecture series. She credits Dr. Chris Crenner, Chair of the Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine for “his remarkable leadership in strengthening the scope and influence of the work of the Department and the Clendening Library.” During her time at KUMC, Professor Montello has become a national and international leader in the field of narrative ethics. She is Editor-in-Chief of Perspectives in Biology and Medicine, published by Johns Hopkins University Press. Professor Montello has accepted a new faculty position as Lecturer at the Center for Bioethics, Harvard Medical School.

VESALIUS CENSUS by Dawn McInnis

The Clendening Library took part in another Vesalius Census of the 1543 and 1555 editions of Vesalius’ De humani corporis fabrica libri septem. Finding answers to the extensive questions, image requests, and documentation took almost two weeks. Nearly three days were spent going through most of the paper records we have in the library including Dr. Logan Clendening’s book and artifact receipts, Dr. Thor Jager’s purchase records, library files and articles, and boxes of library documents (bindery records, donations and acquisitions). Reviewing the books was challenging and interesting. An exhausting task was examining more than 1500 individual pages for annotations, marks, tears, wormholes, foxing, and misnumbering. One of the goals of the census is assessing the annotations in the Fabrica to explore the reading habits of the original owners. The resulting article by Dániel Margócsy, Márk Somos, and Stephen Joffe will be an extensive bibliographic description of each surviving copy with particular attention paid to provenance and annotations. An additional bonus for libraries, librarians, and collectors will be providing new provenance clues to copies that have been sold, transferred, or donated without leaving a specific time line of ownership.

PEARCE FELLOWSHIP by Dawn McInnis

Through the generous support of the Eugene W.J. Pearce, M.D., and Lunetta A. Pearce, M.D., Fellowship in the History of Medicine at the Clendening Library, Matthew Edwards deepened his understanding of the history of race and physician advocacy in medicine through historical research. This library research complemented Matthew’s archival research on the history of emergency medical services (EMS). A fourth-year student in the M.D./Honors in Research Program at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Matthew is broadly interested in the history of medicine as a social enterprise. Matthew spent one week at the Clendening Library in April reading historical monographs and completing a draft of his paper. Matthew’s
research examines race and the rise of emergency medical services in Pittsburgh from 1967-1975. Prior to the 1960s, most critically ill and injured patients were transported to hospitals in the back of police cars and hearses. Access to quality EMS in black communities was especially precarious. In response, Drs. Peter Safar and Nancy Caroline co-partnered with the black-run Freedom House Enterprises to create a novel ambulance service to test their plan for a mobile intensive care unit staffed by trained paramedics. Matthew’s research at the Clendening Library helped contextualize this social and medical experiment within the broader history of physician advocacy and health policy during the 1960s and 1970s. He successfully completed and defended his thesis titled “Freedom House Ambulance Service: Race and the Rise of Emergency Medical Services, 1967-1975” in August and was awarded summa cum laude honors. He plans to publish the thesis as a series of articles. It was a pleasure to work with Matthew while he researched this important work at the Clendening Library. (Submitted by Matthew Edwards)

MOVIE NIGHT by Dawn McInnis

The History and Philosophy of Medicine Department went to the movies this summer. After seeing a display in the library about Dr. John R. Brinkley, the Kansas goat-gland doctor, a patron mentioned that the movie “Nuts!” was showing at the Tivoli in Westport. A few of us along with some family members met for a late afternoon showing of the partially animated documentary about Brinkley, who was a charlatan, charmer, liar, visionary, millionaire, marketer, write-in gubernatorial candidate, and radio entrepreneur. Attendee Jerry Rees realized that in 1973 he actually met Brinkley’s wife during a tour of the Brinkley mansion in Del Rio, TX. Rees had a relative who showed them the mansion and introduced them to “an elderly woman with thick makeup,” who he assumed was a daughter. When he saw the movie clips of Brinkley’s wife Minnie, he realized that he’d actually met Mrs. Brinkley.

We stood around afterwards discussing Brinkley and his shenanigans – his amazing charisma, his marketing foresight, the ethics that he violated, and how his ego brought about his downfall. The movie was sorrowfully summed up by the portrayal of a longtime patient and friend: “I knew he was lying about the goat-gland operation but I liked him.” Sad,
moving, and incredibly interesting, “Nuts!” still comes up in our conversations. We’d all recommend it for anyone interested in medical history, marketing, charlatans, medical ethics, or political clout.

CLENDENING IMAGE IN FORTHCOMING BOOK
by Dawn McInnis

Michael Yonan, Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Missouri, Columbia, has a new book coming out through Routledge Publishing. The topic is Franz Xaver Messerschmidt, an eighteenth-century German-Austrian sculptor who was a contemporary of Maximilian Hell in 1760-70’s Vienna.

Clendening’s 1762 book by Hell, *Anleitung zum nützlichen Gebrauch der künstlichen Stahl-Magneten*, was a familiar read to Messerschmidt and Yonan is using the image of the one plate contained in Hell’s book. We’ll have to wait for the book to see the connections between Hell and Messerschmidt, but I’m guessing the link is Hell’s book on magnetism which eventually led to a disagreement with Franz Anton Mesmer, whose bust was created by Messerschmidt.

WICHITA BOOK DEACCESSION
by Dawn McInnis

The Farha Library at KUMC Wichita will be slightly remodeled and they needed to deaccession some of their older books so I took my first trip to the Wichita campus.

I was warmly welcomed by their librarians, and we started our two-day project of choosing, cleaning and boxing books to transfer to the Clendening History of Medicine Library. I drove home with 12 bankers boxes of books and Jamie Rees and I are currently updating the online catalog by adding and transferring records. Jamie is keeping track of the previously cataloged books so Susan Clark from Farha, will be able to update their records in WorldCat. I was really excited to see their beautiful campus and the lovely George J. Farha Medical Library. A heartfelt thank-you goes to the Wichita staff for the warm welcome and hard work we accomplished!
The restoration of the Clendening Fountain in 2016 preserves the legacy of Dr. Logan and Mrs. Dorothy Hixon Clendening. The new fountain also honors Nancy Hulston, archivist and director of the Clendening History of Medicine Museum, for championing the preservation of University of Kansas Medical Center history and recognizes the support of the Glore family and many individuals who made possible the rebuilding of the original 1947 fountain.
1, 2 The new fountain honoring Dorothy and Logan Clendening.

3 Executive Vice Chancellor Doug Girod, M.D., opening the Clendening Fountain dedication. Also pictured is a photograph of the old Clendening Fountain that previously sat in the courtyard.

4 The Clendening Fountain dedication.

5 Nancy Hulston, M.A., retired archivist and director of the Logan History of Medicine Museum, Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine, (center) talks with Bruce Bradley, MLIS, retired librarian from Linda Hall Library (left) and Cathy Callen Molineux, author after the dedication.

6 A very scholarly discussion... Chris Crenner, M.D., Ph.D, Chair, Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine, (center) has a scholarly discussion with Enrique Chaves, M.D., Pediatric Neurology (left) and David Wilson, M.D., Cardiovascular Diseases (right).

7 Joe Bast, Ph.D., retired KUMC faculty; Judith Reagan, retired KUMC staff; Ryan Fagan, Ph.D., Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine.

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NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Much has changed with the KUMC Archives since the last newsletter. This past January, longtime Archives Director, Nancy Hulston, retired after nearly thirty years of service to KUMC and the Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine. Department Chair Robert P. Hudson, MD, and Executive Vice Chancellor D. Kay Clawson, MD, hired Nancy in 1988 to establish the first formal archives of the Medical Center. Prior to the formation of the KUMC Archives, the Clendening Library housed the Medical Center’s historical materials as part of the library collection. Under Nancy’s supervision, the KUMC Archives expanded to over 3,000 cubic feet of historical materials from the Medical Center and KUMC alumni, spanning the early years of the Medical Center to present day. As a fitting end to a prolific career, Nancy was commemorated at a ceremony in September during which she was conferred with professor emeritus status.

Alex Welborn, former Library and Archives Assistant, succeeds Nancy as the Head Archivist of the KUMC Archives and the Spine and Orthopedic Historical Collections. Alex received his Master of Library and Information Science degree with a concentration in Archival Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Archives. In addition, he also completed internships at the archives of the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas and the archives of the Milwaukee County Historical Society. With a strong background in libraries and archives, Alex brings a diverse set of skills and an understanding of emerging trends to the KUMC Archives.

Alex has approached the challenges of his new position with enthusiasm. In addition to his daily responsibilities managing the archives, Alex also is conducting a collection survey to assess the current state of the archives. The survey involves gathering basic information about the collections in the KUMC Archives box-by-box and shelf-by-shelf, including quantity, form, location, physical condition, current storage, and rate of accumulation. The information obtained through the collection survey will help Alex regain control of collections lost through outdated inventories and finding aids, and reveal materials requiring conservation work or additional arrangement and description. Though at times tedious, the collection survey is the first step towards a long-term goal of increasing the visibility and accessibility of the Medical Center’s historical collections. Alex hopes to complete the collection survey within the next year, at which point he will begin cataloging collections into the archival content management system, ArchivesSpace. Alex may be reached at 913-588-7243 or awelborn@kumc.edu.

NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM

New Curator

2016 has been a time of transition in the Clendening History of Medicine Museum. In June, the Department hired me as the new museum curator, as well as assistant librarian of
I received my BA in Classical Archaeology from the University of Missouri in 2013 and my MA in Museum Studies from The University of Kansas in 2016. I spent several years as a Student Assistant Librarian at the Clendening, as well as a year as an Education Aide at the Kansas City Museum and two years as the Community Outreach intern for KU Libraries. I am excited to add to the body of research and museum exhibitions already produced in the Museum, and to aid in the ongoing cataloging project in the library.

Cataloging Project
Since the start of my time here, I have begun a comprehensive review of the collection, with the aim of recording it fully in our computerized museum cataloging software, PastPerfect. In addition to adding newer acquisitions, this will integrate several past inventories. Each object must be located, its provenance researched, its condition and storage situation assessed, and finally photographed. All this information is then input into PastPerfect. As of September, over 250 items have been recorded, both new acquisitions and existing collections. I believe that as this project progresses, we will get to know our collection better and make it more easily accessible for future research and exhibition.

Upcoming Exhibition
The museum will host the exhibition “Medical Caricature: The KUMC Collection,” featuring medical caricatures and related artifacts from the library and museum collection. This exhibit highlights three caricaturists with close ties to KU Medical Center: Dr. Gene “Yogi” Williams, Dr. Hubert M. Floersch, and Dr. Francis “Mike” Abbott Carmichael III. By looking at their body of work, we can see how KUMC students used the art of caricature to mitigate the stress and responsibilities of medical school. This exhibit was produced in conjunction with the KUMC Alumni Reunion Weekend, October 7-8, 2016, and will remain up through spring 2017.

Medical Caricature: The KUMC Collection

The Clendening History of Medicine Museum is proud to present the exhibition, “Medical Caricature: The KUMC Collection” in honor of Alumni Weekend, October 6-7, 2016. This exhibit features caricatures of KUMC faculty and students, by KUMC faculty and students.

Other Exhibits
For the dedication of the new Clendening Fountain on July 28th, the museum hosted a small exhibit to provide context for the ceremony, and to celebrate the career and accomplishments of Nancy Hulston, Archivist.
Emerita. The display featured objects owned and related to Logan Clendening and materials from Nancy’s body of scholarship.

On September 27th, the museum provided a loan of artifacts to the Visiting Nurse Association of Kansas City for their 125th anniversary celebration at the National World War I Museum. This display included nursing uniforms from various hospitals in the area, as well as a Chase Hospital Doll used by VNA nurses in the 1920s and 1930s for demonstrating childcare techniques to members of the community. The 1970s nurse’s pantsuit proved to be the crowd favorite.

From the Museum Collection:
In the past, the department newsletter has highlighted new collections added to the museum. In light of the museum cataloging project and the de facto pause in active collecting, I want to highlight in each newsletter an exceptional and/or interesting artifact that I have come across in my work.

In November 1957, the “News to the Friends of the Library” announced that Dr. Major had acquired a plaster cast of the Stele of Hammurabi from the Musée du Louvre in Paris. The significance of the stele—and the laws inscribed on it—has been well documented. It represents one of the first comprehensive codes of law standardized in writing. Among the laws concerning adoption, marriage, divorce, property, civil order, and criminal conduct, there are 11 sections regulating medical practice.

Dr. Major recognized the stele’s significance to the history of medicine and went about procuring a copy for the museum. The exact details of this story remained unclear until a letter in Dr. Major’s distinctive handwriting was uncovered in a box of miscellaneous museum correspondence. On June 28th, 1956, he lamented to librarian Phoebe Peck that the negotiations with the Louvre were “bogged down” due to the absence of the director of the Commercial Services department. As Major’s July 4th departure grew near, he was growing understandably anxious. He observed, “The French sellers, not buyers, have great sales resistance...It’s just an old French Custom. Here the sales resistance works in reverse. I would seem like the seller rather than the buyer.”

In a last-minute postscript, Majors exults that he had “succeeded in breaking down all resistance” at the Louvre and obtained the bill for the execution of a copy of the Hammurabi stele for the price of $158 plus shipping. He concluded in his own words, “Whew! It was a job. But I think the stele should be a knockout.”
IS THERE LIFE AFTER RETIREMENT?
by Nancy Hulston

Late last year, upon telling friends and acquaintances about my impending retirement, the response was usually a variant on, “But what are you going to do with your time?” Then I talked to a friend who retired a couple of years ago, and she said, “I am so active that I don’t know how I ever had time to work.” So a dilemma arose – too much time with nothing to do, or too much to do filling all that time.

Luckily for me a middle-road approach seems to be working. One of the favorite challenges in my job was conducting historical research and writing on local medical history. Now I can do that at my leisure with no urgent deadlines. My current project is researching two sisters who were early-twentieth-century Kansas City physicians.

As emeritus, I enjoy answering any questions from the new kids on the block – my very talented and capable successors: Jamie Rees in the museum, and Alex Welborn in the archives. I also enjoy working with Ryan Fagan on aspects of the noon seminar series and with Julie Stark as she tackles the continuation of the History of Medicine Newsletter. I am also ready to advise and consult on about anything, whether or not I know anything about it.

I love sleeping late, setting my own time for meetings and appointments (nothing before 11:00 am), “doing lunch” with treasured friends and colleagues, enjoying lunch by myself with a good book, going where I want to go when I want to go, spending time with my grandchildren without admonishment, and growing old with my beloved dogs – Sparkle Ann and A.J.

Many of the highest, and a few of the lowest, memories of my career are tied to working in the History of Medicine Department. I feel that I had the best job I could ever have hoped for, usually surrounded by exceptional co-workers and colleagues, and guided by strong leadership over the years. I am happy that in retirement, I am able to maintain personal, professional, and academic ties with the department and KU Medical Center. So, I will have to say yes: There is life after retirement.

Nancy Hulston
Associate Professor Emeritus
History and Philosophy of Medicine
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
IN KANSAS CITY

The centennial of the opening of the Panama Canal to world commerce on August 15, 1914, was celebrated in Kansas City by both the Linda Hall Library of Science, Technology and Engineering and the Clendening History of Medicine Library and Museum with exhibits and lectures emphasizing the engineering and medical aspects, respectively, of this great engineering achievement. The completion of the Panama Canal represented not only a triumph of American engineering but also a triumph of sanitation.

CLENDENING MUSEUM EXHIBIT

The Clendening exhibit, entitled “A Triumph of American Medicine: William Gorgas, Ancon Hospital and the Panama Canal,” was curated by Dawn McInnis, Nancy Hulston, and Enrique Chaves and included many photographs, books, and materials obtained from the National Archives, Library of Congress, Rockefeller Archives, Wellcome Library, and the Panama Canal libraries and museums. Among the unique items displayed were the original autopsy records of the first cases of human histoplasmosis discovered by Samuel T. Darling in Panama in 1905 and the original Ancon Hospital Yellow Fever log detailing the 246 cases of yellow fever reported from July 12, 1904, until December 7, 1906, when the last case of vómito negro (black vomit) was admitted to Ancon Hospital in Panama under the care of William Gorgas, Chief Sanitary Officer of the Isthmian Canal Commission. The Clendening exhibit was viewed by many interested visitors and finally closed in April 2015.
DIGITAL EXHIBIT

Thanks to the combined efforts of the Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine (Dawn McInnis, Rare Book Librarian; Nancy Hulston, University of Kansas Medical Center Archivist; and Alex Welborn, Archivist) and the Department of Internet Development (Karen Chinn, Manager of Web Design and Internet Development; and Jesse Hall, Web Developer), a digital version of the exhibit, “The Panama Canal: A Triumph of American Medicine” was inaugurated on April 1st, 2016.

SANITATION OF THE ISTHMUS

The digital exhibit includes more than 80 images and focuses on key personnel, including William Gorgas (Chief Quarantine Officer), Samuel Darling (Chief of the Board of Health Laboratories), Henry Carter (Director of Hospitals), Joseph LePrince (Entomologist), and Louis La Garde (Director of Hospitals) responsible for the sanitation of the isthmus; the hospitals and laboratories supporting the sanitation effort; and the diseases such as malaria, yellow fever, and other tropical ailments that decimated the canal laborers.

WEST INDIAN LABOR

More than 28,000 workers sacrificed their lives during the construction of the Panama Canal. About 22,000 workers died during the French failed effort to build a sea-level canal and nearly 6,000 during the American enterprise. The leading causes of death were pneumonia, tuberculosis, yellow fever, malaria, and “external causes” due to trauma from heavy equipment accidents and dynamite explosions (more than 66 million pounds of dynamite were used).

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

The digital exhibit pays tribute to the West Indian laborers (mainly from Barbados, Jamaica, and other Caribbean islands) who sacrificed their lives during the construction of the canal. These workers also suffered from deplorable living conditions in crowded and poorly ventilated living quarters. They also were victims of the racial discrimination that was prevalent among the non-white workers and enforced by the authorities in the American enclave known as the Panama Canal Zone.

The digital exhibit may be accessed at our website under the Special Collections section or by using the following link:


Enrique Chaves, M.D.
Clinical Professor
Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine
OCTOBER

Monday, October 17
Clendening Summer Fellow Presentations
Clendening Amphitheater, 2004 Robinson
12 noon – 1:00 pm, Lunch provided for the first 50

Abbey Elsbernd “Perceptions of Stress in Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Cancer Patients in Kansas City, KS, and Copenhagen, Denmark”

Christopher Simwinga “Approach to HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment in Zambia, Africa”

Thursday, October 27
The Logan Clendening Lecture in the History of Medicine/Research and Development Grand Rounds
Lecture 12:00 pm, Lied Auditorium
Lunch for the first 50 attendees
To register: https://www.kumc.edu/events-calendar.html

Ben Hurlbut, PhD, Arizona State University

Monday, October 31
Clendening Summer Fellow Presentations
Clendening Amphitheater, 2004 Robinson
12 noon – 1:00 pm, Lunch provided for the first 50

Eyad Ghaibeh “Beyond Barriers - A Refugee’s Perspective of Healthcare”

Mollyanne Gibson “Prenatal Perspectives on Natural or Cesarean Deliveries in China”

NOVEMBER

Friday, November 4
Clendening Summer Fellow Presentations
Clendening Amphitheater, 2004 Robinson
12 noon – 1:00 pm, Lunch provided for the first 50

Carley Trentman “Nutritional Disruption in the Marshall Islands: An Examination from Pre-World War II to Now”

Jerrica Werner “Impact of Household Water Treatment Systems on Community Health in Patanatic, Guatemala”

Monday, November 7
Clendening Summer Fellow Presentations
Clendening Amphitheater, 2004 Robinson
12 noon – 1:00 pm, Lunch provided for the first 50

Michelle Metzger “Obesity and Complications in American Indian Youth”

Rebecca Piland “Oh, the Humanities! How Do Medical Students Best Learn Them for Board Examinations?”

Thursday, November 10
The Friesen Lecture in the History of Surgery
Reception 4:00 pm, Clendening Foyer, 1000 Robinson
Lecture 4:30 pm, Clendening Auditorium, 2004 Robinson

Justin Barr, MD, Duke University “Surgical Repair of Arteries in War and Peace, 1880-1960”

Wednesday, November 16
Ralph Hermon Major Luncheon Seminar Series
Clendening Foyer, 1000 Robinson
12 noon – 1:00 pm, Lunch provided, please RSVP to Ryan Fagan 913-588-7040, rfagan@kumc.edu

Fr. Jerry Spencer
DECEMBER

Friday, December 2
Clendening Summer Fellow Presentations
Clendening Amphitheater, 2004 Robinson
Transmitted via ITV from Wichita
12 noon – 1:00 pm, Lunch provided

Pie Pichetsurnthorn “HIV Preventative Care in
Asian and Pacific Islanders”

Thursday, December 15
Ralph Hermon Major Luncheon Seminar Series
Clendening Foyer, 1000 Robinson
12 noon – 1:00 pm, Lunch provided, please RSVP
to Ryan Fagan 913-588-7040, rfagan@kumc.edu

Linda Voigts, PhD, University of Missouri-Kansas City
FRIENDS OF THE CLENDENING

We welcome contributions that support the broad mission of the Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine and the legacy of Logan Clendening. Private support makes a great difference to the department.

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________________

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