FALL MEETING OF THE MEDICAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

The fall meeting of the Society will be held October 28 at The Nassau Club of Princeton. Registration begins at 3:30 PM. Three speakers will precede cocktails at 5:30 PM and one speaker will deliver the keynote address following dinner. While there is no overall theme for this meeting, the focus will be on radiation and the radium dial painters of New Jersey. Dr. William Sharpe and keynote speaker, Dr. Ross Mullner, will deliver papers on this aspect of New Jersey medical history. These papers tie in with an exhibit opening October 14 at UMDNJ-G.F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences titled "Radium and Radiation, 1896-1993."

The papers to be presented are:

"PCP and Me: The Small Joys and Great Satisfactions of Medical Sleuthing"

Allen B. Weisse, M.D., Professor of Medicine, UMDNJ-NJMS

"The Nobel Prize and Surgery"

Kenneth Swann, M.D., Professor of Surgery, UMDNJ-NJMS

"Their Bones Just Rotted"

William Sharpe, M.D., Director, Department of Pathology, Cabrini Medical Center, New York

"In Dr. Martland's Footsteps: The Radium Dial Episode"

Ross Mullner, Ph.D., M.P.H., Associate Professor of Public Health, School of Public Health, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Research Associate, Argonne National Laboratories

Members, students and friends are invited to attend this dinner meeting. The cost of registration and dinner including cocktails or soft drinks is $30. For information and registration please contact Lisa Fleischer, MHSNJ, Two Princess Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648, (609) 896-1717.

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ELECTION RESULTS AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Election of Society officers was held at the annual meeting May 19. The election results are:

Officers 1992-1994

President: Sandra Moss, M.D.
Vice President: William Campbell, Ph.D.
Secretary/Treasurer: Barbara S. Irwin, M.L.S.
Past President: Robert L. Thompson, Ed.D.

President Moss appointed the following members to serve on committees:

Wickes Prize Committee:
Francis P. Chinard, M.D., Chair
Estelle Brodman, Ph.D.
Christine Haycock, M.D.
Robert L. Trelstad, M.D.

Membership Committee:
Vincent Cirillo, M.S., Chair
Andrea Blumenthal, Ph.D.
Richard Middleton, Ph.D.

Program Committee:
Robert Thompson, Ed.D., Chair
Richard P. Wedeen, M.D.
Allen B. Weisse, M.D.

Newsletter: Lois R. Densky-Wolff, M.A.L.S.

ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A videotape was made of the annual meeting held last May to allow members unable to attend to view the proceedings. "Bibliophilia and Medical History" was the theme of the meeting. Three papers, two informal talks, and the business meeting were recorded and are available for loan from Special Collections and Archives, UMDNJ-G.F. Smith Library. Members are requested to pay postage for mailing the videotape. Contact (201) 504-7830, if you would like to arrange a loan. Future meetings also will be videotaped for members to view.

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Vince Cirillo, M.S., reports that the Membership Committee is actively soliciting the New Jersey pharmaceutical industry to sign on as corporate members of the Society. Funds generated from this membership category will be used to support special programs and projects.

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The Stephen Wickes Prize is an annual award made by the Society for an original contribution to the history of medicine that preferably focuses on health matters relating to New Jersey. Submissions have traditionally been received from students or trainees in the health sciences. The Wickes Prize Committee also encourages history students in New Jersey academic institutions to submit contributions for consideration. A prize of $250 is awarded.

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Barbara S. Irwin, M.L.S., received the University Excellence Award for Service for her extraordinary skills and knowledge as special collections librarian and archivist at UMDNJ’s University Libraries. Ms. Irwin was cited for producing seven major exhibits, successfully securing three conservation grants for preservation projects conducted at the Smith Library, establishing The New Jersey Medical History Manuscript Collection and the UMDNJ Photo Archives, and revitalizing the UMDNJ Archives Program.

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Sandra Moss, M.D., announces that a gift of $200 was received from Roerig Pharmaceuticals Group, a Division of Pfizer Inc., Clifton, N.J. Mr. Emery Kutney, Senior District Hospital Consultant for the company, was instrumental in helping the Society receive the donation.

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Robert L. Treistad, M.D., is a founder of Keyboard Publishing. The company publishes medical textbooks in digital form. Software is available for Macintosh (HyperCard), or for IBM or compatibles (Windows 3.1), and is accessed via the hard disk. Titles currently available include Robbins’ Pathology (WB Saunders), Albert’s Molecular Biology of the Cell (Garland), and Sherris’ Medical Microbiology (Elsevier). The Merck Manual is forthcoming. For more information, contact Keyboard Publishing at (800) 945-4551.

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David L. Cowen was inducted into Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni on April 11, 1992.

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An auction of rare medical books will be held by the Swann Galleries in New York City on November 24. Catalogues of the sale are available for $10 and may be obtained by contacting the gallery at (212) 254-4710.

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RADIUM & RADIATION THEME FOR EXHIBIT AT THE SMITH LIBRARY

Dr. Harrison S. Martland, a famed Newark physician, and his research into industrial radium poisoning, is the focus of an exhibit on radiation opening October 14 on the Newark campus of UMDNJ.

"Radium and Radiation, 1896-1993" will be on display in the exhibition gallery of the UMDNJ-George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences through January.

Dr. Martland, former Essex County medical examiner, pathologist and instructor at Newark City Hospital from 1908 to the early 1950’s, gained medical renown for demonstrating the adverse effects of radium on the body. He made this discovery while investigating a group of West Orange, N.J., women who had similar ailments and who all worked in a local factory painting the numbers on the clock faces with radium. The women became known as the "Radium Dial Painters."

The exhibit also features displays about Henri Becquerel’s discovery of natural radioactivity in 1896 and the problem high levels of radon presents to New Jersey homeowners today.

Additional exhibits showcase the clinical and basic research being performed by the divisions of nuclear medicine and radiation research in the Department of Radiology at the UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School.

The exhibit will be on view in the library, 30 Twelfth Avenue. The exhibit closes at the end of January (for a temporary exhibit commemorating Afro-American History Month in February) and will reopen in April, remaining on display until September 1993.

The exhibit is produced by the University Libraries-Special Collections and Archives Department in cooperation with the UMDNJ-NJMS’s Departments of Medicine and Radiology and the UMDNJ-Office of Radiation Safety Services. For more information on the exhibit, call (201) 456-6293.

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MHSNJ PHYSICIANS DONATE PAPERS

The Department of Special Collections and Archives, UMDNJ-University Libraries, has received additions to two of its manuscript collections. Both collections document the medical careers of MHSNJ members.

Morris H. Saffron, M.D., Ph.D., Visiting Professor of Medicine (Medical History) Emeritus, UMDNJ, has donated the remainder of his papers (1927-1992) to University Libraries. Dr. Saffron was instrumental in facilitating the gift of the rare book library of the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey to UMDNJ in 1972 and the collection was named in his honor in 1978. Dr. Saffron established two endowments through the Foundation of UMDNJ to support acquisitions in the history of medicine and to create the Morris H. Saffron Program in the History of Medicine at UMDNJ-NJMS. The collection includes reprints of articles and book reviews, copies of scholarly papers, photographs, correspondence, clippings, lecture notes, and commemorative plaques.

Felix H. Vann, M.D. added nearly four linear feet of correspondence and subject files to his papers (1933-1992). This collection documents a mid-twentieth century New Jersey physician and his active OB/GYN practice. Dr. Vann was an active participant in professional associations including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Bergen County Medical Society, Englewood Hospital, Sacres Obstetrical Society, and Planned Parenthood of Greater Northern New Jersey.

Both collections have been arranged and inventories of their contents prepared. Researchers may consult these and other collections by appointment by contacting the Department at (201) 504-7830.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS


Oct. 28 Fall Meeting, MHSNJ, Nassau Club, Princeton.

Nov. 24 Medical Book Auction, Swann Gallaries, NYC.

### MEMBER RESEARCH IN PROGRESS 1992

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Alewitz, Ph.D.</td>
<td>New Jersey Sanitary Association; An historical novel depicting 1880's typhus at the Camden,</td>
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<td>N.J. almshouse, maltreatment of patients at the asylum and smallpox epidemic in the city.</td>
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<td>George L. Becker Jr., M.D.</td>
<td>Generations in neurological surgery (with Dr. Henry Liss); &quot;History of the New Jersey</td>
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<td>Neurosurgical Society: Implementing A Paradigm&quot; (with Dr. Henry Liss).</td>
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<td>Whitfield J. Bell, Jr.</td>
<td>Biographical dictionary of early members of the American Philosophical Society (3 vols.);</td>
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<td>Biography of Dr. Thomas Bond (1713-1784).</td>
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<td>William C. Campbell, Ph.D.</td>
<td>History of parasitic diseases; Would be interested in discussion/collaboration with someone</td>
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<td>with expertise in histology of tumors.</td>
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<td>David L. Cowen</td>
<td>Biographical sketches of Franklin Bache and Jokichi Takamine.</td>
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<td>Leon D. Hankoff, M.D.</td>
<td>Psychology and psychopathology of the 1st century.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara S. Irwin, M.L.S.</td>
<td>Collecting old and rare medical books; Antiquarian book collections of physicians in</td>
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<td>medical libraries.</td>
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Sandra Moss, M.D.  Leonard Rowtree, one-half century of internal medicine; A New Jersey physician in Thailand.

Ynez Violé O'Neil  History of anatomy, physiology and neurology; Medieval medical images.

Helen E. Sheehan, Ph.D.  Demographic Analysis of New Jersey Home for Disabled Soldiers, 1866-1976 (with Richard P. Wedeen, M.D. & Martha Ecker, Ph.D.); Contemporary Practice of Classical Systems of Indian Medicine (manuscript in preparation for publication).


Richard P. Wedeen, M.D.  Demographic Analysis of New Jersey Home for Disabled Soldiers, 1866-1976 (with Helen E. Sheehan, Ph.D. & Martha Ecker, Ph.D.).

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