Darwin at 200
Although CWRU is a private research university, it is not immune to the fiscal problems facing the State of Ohio. Moreover, CHSL is deeply involved with OhioLINK — the Ohio Board of Regents funded statewide library consortium — for much of its electronic information resources. The most recent budget cutbacks announced by Gov. Strickland will mean a 10% reduction in the OhioLINK centrally-funded budget. This reduction in spending power comes just at the time OhioLINK is beginning negotiations with journal publishers and database vendors for 2010 licenses. OhioLINK has joined with the International Coalition of Library Consortia in releasing the ICOLC Global Economic Crisis Statement. The position paper states “1) We expect significant and widespread cuts in budget levels for libraries and consortia; 2) These cuts will be prolonged.” The full text is available at http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia/icolc-econcrisis-0109.htm.

As I update the 5-year budget projection, I am realistic about what decreased funding will mean to library operations and the resources and services we provide our users. I am optimistic, too, because CHSL has a track record of nimbleness and flexibility that has seen us through difficult times before. Most importantly, the Library is staffed with extraordinarily dedicated and creative people who will meet this challenge.

It has been a shattering several months for the stock markets, and the fallout is already being felt by individuals and institutions around the globe. I have tracked the severity of the individual damage by how people alike — friends and strangers — have shifted from describing their losses with adjectives, e.g. “I’ve lost some...” or “I’ve lost quite a bit...” to quoting per centages, e.g. “I’ve lost 20%...” or “I’ve lost 60%...” Some have even offered actual dollar amounts, which while embarrassing, keenly demonstrate the shared pain and misery loves-company state of mind that has settled in. No one is talking openly about taking early retirement these days!

Institutions have suffered staggering losses, too, including high-profile universities whose endowments have taken the same kind of hit that individuals have. While some endowment losses may mean deferred capital projects, many universities fund operating budgets from endowment earnings, and reduced earnings translate into a direct cut in day-to-day budget support. The Cleveland Health Sciences Library derives about one-fifth of its budget support from endowment earnings, and will see a decrease in this revenue by the end of the fiscal year in June. Different endowments calculate their payout — the amount of spendable income made available to the beneficiary — in different ways, so the financial hit that CHSL will suffer will vary from endowment to endowment. Those endowment funds invested in the Case Western Reserve University endowment pool are expected to be only modestly affected in the fiscal year beginning July 2009, primarily because the payout is based on a 4-year rolling average, and the recent downturn will be tempered by earlier years of good performance. However, another significant source of CHSL budget support, the Preniss Endowment Fund, calculates its payout on a 1-year rolling average, and that revenue will drop dramatically — perhaps by 30% or more.

Cover image: Etching of Charles Darwin by Mercier (1890), pictured with some early editions of Darwin’s books, all from the Dittrick’s Robert M. Stecher Collection of Charles Darwin Books and Manuscripts. For other Darwin related events at CWRU see www.case.edu/darwin/
A DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENT AT THE DITTRICK

The close of 2008 marks the first decade of the Dittrick’s operation as a Center under the College of Arts and Sciences of Case Western Reserve University. It seemed worthwhile to mark the passing of this decade with a retrospective look at what we have accomplished in that time, and what we have to look forward to in the coming months and ensuing years. For a listing of major projects and renovations, see the listing at the end of the Newsletter.

Few of our endeavors would have been possible without the ongoing support of the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Medical Library Association and the Friends of the Dittrick Museum. The Dittrick came under the umbrella of the College of Arts and Sciences when the Board of Trustees renegotiated the agreement binding the fortunes of CMLA to CWRU. This realignment has brought many dividends and benefits but that does not mean that the CMLA relinquished interest in the Dittrick and the Allen. Far from it. The CMLA Trustees maintain an abiding concern for our well-being and have backed that with repeated demonstrations of support at crucial moments. In the past decade the CMLA Trustees played a pivotal role in helping to move forward on important projects by underwriting support for scholars coming to Cleveland to do research in our collections, and by allocating funds for the timely acquisition of historical materials. Most important, the CMLA provided essential funding to match support of renovations offered by the Zverina family and Thomas F. Peterson, Jr. For this we are sincerely grateful and appreciative. CMLA support and encouragement not only helps in a material fashion; it also renews our commitment to keeping the Dittrick in the first ranks of medical history collections both here and abroad.

Becoming a University Museum: Accomodation, Collaboration, and Cooperation

When the Dittrick came under the umbrella of the College of Arts and Sciences, I met with Dean John Bassett. John was an inspired and inspiring leader, and called for a more complete integration of the Dittrick and its collections into the intellectual life of the CWRU undergraduate experience. We have pursued this mandate from Dean Bassett, and it has been enthusiastically continued by his successors, Sam Savin, Mark Turner, and now Cyrus Taylor. We have transitioned into becoming more fully a university museum, hosting classes using Dittrick resources, co-sponsoring events with various departments and centers across campus, and bringing to the CWRU campus a high caliber of speakers and programs that enrich the student experience and engage interested faculty. A few examples will suffice to illustrate the nature and range of our integration within CWRU, and highlight forthcoming collaborations.

To accommodate classes and seminars we needed a suitable space. To that end, in 2001, we relocated archival storage to renovated space in the basement. We then completely re-designed and upgraded the third floor space adjacent to the Dittrick Museum galleries, now designated as the Zverina Room in recognition of that family’s generous support of our endeavor. Today that room serves as home to the Dittrick’s library of trade catalogues and museum literature. But the Zverina Room also welcomes seminars and classes, whose needs are particularly well met by new furniture provided by Professor Tom Mortimer and the CMLA Board of Trustees. Just this past December the floor was sanded and refinished having grown tired and worn from heavy student traffic. Beginning in January, the Zverina Room will become home to the new weekly luncheon seminars of CWRU’s Institute for the Science of Origins (ISO) headed by Glenn Starkman (Physics). The ISO brings together scientists and...
scholars from across University Circle to explore origins issues, from the origins of the universe, to human or igns, to the origins of consciousness and culture. Participants will include curators and paleontologists from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, professors of physics and cosmology, evolutionary biology, medical anthropology, anatomy and pathology, and medical scientists studying stem cells, DNA, and regenerative medicine. We will continue to welcome weekly classes in the Zverina Room, particularly those that incorporate our collections into the course curricula.

One of the most persistent and creative users of Dittrick collections is Patricia Princehouse (History and Philosophy of Science), who is beginning work with our Darwiniana collections in this, the year of Darwin. Patricia has taught Darwin’s View of Life, a SAGES class featuring student use of our 180 letters of Darwin correspondence that is part of the Robert M. Stecher collection of Darwiniana. She will be working with the Dittrick archivist Jennifer Nieves to more effectively showcase the Darwin letters, making them available in electronic form, as well as providing historic context and meaning. Jenny has been helping Patricia in her classes for some time now, but their collaborative work will take a new form, being featured in a dedicated portion of the Dittrick website featuring the Darwin material. We will also be loaning rare books from the Darwin collection for exhibitions at the Cleveland Botanical Garden, Holden Arboretum, and Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

The kind of help that the Dittrick routinely provides to CWRU faculty and students may be illustrated by the example of Alan Rocke’s forthcoming work, entitled Image and Reality: Constructing the Molecular World: Kekulé, Kopp, and the Scientific Imagination. Alan is a historian of chemistry with particular interest in 19th century German chemistry and in the course of his work he has become intrigued by non-verbal, pictorial thinking in science. This is evidenced in diagrams of molecular structure, which he features extensively in Image and Reality. Capturing these images can prove difficult and even exasperating, however, given the problematic quality of scientific journal and monograph printing in the 19th century. To the rescue came Laura Travis, Assistant Curator of Multimedia and Communications. More plainly put, Laura is a superb photographer and knows how to make the most of Photoshop to coax the best out of very dodgy, faint, and broken images. Alan and Laura worked closely in concert to achieve acceptable results, so that Image and Reality will not be let down by poor quality images.

August Wilhelm Hofmann, “On the Combining Power of Atoms,” Proceedings of the Royal Institution, 4 (1865), 401–30, on 426. These are the first molecular models based on a modern system of atomic weights, and they appear entirely modern in shape and form. In modern nomenclature they are methanol, methyl amine, and ethane. Hofmann was Director of the Royal College of Chemistry in London, but later that year he transferred to Berlin. He was one of the greatest chemists of the century.
Collaborations are a great thing to cement ties across departmental and disciplinary boundaries, and the Dittrick embraces such opportunities as they arise. A recent such collaboration took place last Fall, when our Zverina Lecture featured Wendy Kline (University of Cincinnati) speaking on *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, a landmark work that first appeared in 1970 and made accurate health and medical information more accessible to a broad audience by weaving women’s stories into a framework of practical, clearly written text. The talk became the culminating event for a day long program on women’s health sponsored by the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women. Wendy’s talk was marked by a spirited exchange, as it drew more intrigued students than almost any previous Zverina Lecture.

Another emerging similar cooperation and sharing will mark the English Department’s Center for the Study of Writing’s inaugural Writing Week, April 15–18, 2009. During that week the Dittrick will co-sponsor the Edward S. & Melinda Melton Sadar Lecture in Writing in the Disciplines, which will feature Susan Wells (Temple University). Wells’ book, *Out of the Dead House: Nineteenth-Century Women Physicians and the Writing of Medicine* (2001), interprets the scientific exts of women physicians, defining them as key historical documents that deepen our understanding of nineteenth-century medical practice; it also won the 2002 W. Ross Winterowd Award for the most outstanding book in composition theory. Wells’ lecture is entitled *Legible Bodies—Nineteenth-Century Women Physicians and the Rhetoric of Dissection*. For Wells’ visit and lecture, undergraduate research assistant and history major Katherine Schaub will install, with the help of archivist Jennifer Nieves, an exhibit featuring the medical theses of the women graduates of Western Reserve Medical Department in the 1850s.

Yet another example of Dittrick collaboration may be found in our partnering with the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of CWRU. The recently-appointed Dean of the Lerner College, James Young, shares a passion for medical history and is anxious to impart an appreciation of the topic thorough a medical humanities component of the school’s curriculum. Lerner classes came to the Dittrick in the Fall for museum tour and a look at medical classics from the rare book collection, with faculty leaders L en Calabrese and Constance Jennings. On January 15 Jim Edmonson presented the inaugural seminar for a new ly formed student medical history group, the Osler Club. Early in the Spring (March 26), Simon Chaplin (Royal College of Surgeons of England) comes to the Dittrick to present the Anderson Lecture (see details, page 8) and we have invited the Lerner College students to attend along with members of Phi Delta Epsilon International Fraternity (pre-medical chapter at CWRU).

Rather than further exhaust you with yet more examples of the Dittrick participation in the intellectual life of Case Western Reserve University, let me invite you to join us for any of the coming lectures, programs, and exhibitions hosted by the Dittrick this Spring!
**Powell Room.** The balcony has been calling out for an overdue facelift and Don’s donation is thus both materially important and timely. We will welcome Don’s participation and guidance in planning and implementing a complete gallery renovation project in the next year or so.

**Auzoux figure donated to the Dittrick**

This Fall the Dittrick received a welcome addition to the collections: an Auzoux anatomical model. Named for the French physician Louis Thomas Jerôme Auzoux (1797–1878), Auzoux figures were crafted in papier-mâché and designed to be “dissected” by teachers and students in anatomy. Auzoux offered these models as an alternative to human cadavers and wax models, both of which were more costly and less durable. He was apparently inspired by toy puppets of papier-mâché that he saw on the streets of Paris, and aided by a doll manufacturer to craft the anatomical models so they could be mass produced. By the late 1820s Auzoux opened a factory for making the anatomical figures, which soon found their way into anatomy classes across Europe and America. His company survived well into the 20th century and in fact I can recall seeing in 2002 a shop on the rue de l’École de médecine in Paris that featured Auzoux figures (the shop has since closed and reopened as a restaurant). Auzoux models, of natural history specimens as well as human anatomy, are found in museum collections across Europe and the UK, but somewhat less so in America. We were therefore happy to receive our Auzoux figure, offered by a science museum in San Diego, California. Dr. Auzoux’s work is memorialized in the Museum of the Anatomic Ecorché (www.scienceaction.asso.fr/reseau/museeanatomie/index.html) in Neubourg, France, and his models have been featured prominently at two recent medical museum conferences in Edinburgh, Scotland, and Leiden, the Netherlands.

**Blaufox diagnostic instrument collection comes to the Dittrick**

Readers of the CMLA Newsletter will recall that our previous issue noted the important gift of stethoscope drawings from M. Donald Blaufox, M.D. last July. True to expectations, Don decided to also donate a large and significant body of instruments for auscultation (stethoscopes) and sphygmomanometry (blood pressure determination). This gift, numbering over 150 instruments, constitutes a landmark addition to the Dittrick holdings of diagnostic instruments. Don featured these instruments in two historical books, *Blood Pressure Measurement: An Illustrated History* (1998) and *An Ear to the Chest: The Evolution of the Stethoscope* (2002).

Processing the Blaufox collection—accessioning, numbering, cataloguing, and so forth—can be a daunting task, especially given the forthcoming Spring program of lectures and exhibits at the Dittrick. For this reason we were pleased to welcome Nikki Krause, a Kent State University graduate student in search of a practicum to fulfill degree requirements of her MLS. Nikki jumped right in and took on this important project with enthusiasm tempered by measured order. We are glad she found us at this juncture!

Later in 2009, when things become less hectic around the Dittrick, planning will begin to revamp the display on the history of diagnostic instruments that resides on the museum’s balcony. That exhibit gallery was installed in 1976, as a bicentennial project, and we have since purged it for instruments displayed since 2002 in the

---

**Notable recent acquisitions to artifact, archival, and image collections**

**Judy Chelnick, curator in the Division of Medicine and Science of the National Museum of American History (Smithsonian), visited the Dittrick to inspect the Auzoux model. Judy has studied Auzoux models for some time, and kindly shared her expertise with us. Judy Chelnick and Jennifer Nieves examine the Auzoux model.**

---

**Nikki Krause cataloging the Blaufox collection**
We are pleased to announce the forthcoming publication of *Dissection: Photographs of a Rite of Passage in American Medicine, 1880–1930*. This work features the Dittrick’s strong holdings in medical images, specifically portraits of medical students in dissection rooms, customarily depicted with their fellow students and cadavers. We are especially fortunate for tunate to be partnering in this venture with Blast Books, headed by Laura Lindgren and Ken Swesey. Laura and Ken were the creative talent behind the Mutter Museum calendars and two recent books on the Mutter collections. Laura in particular shared a long standing friendship with Gretchen Worden, who sadly died in 2004. That connection brought us together, and ultimately led to this publishing project and future creative ventures on the history of contraception and medical museums.

*Dissection* reveals the culture of secrecy that long surrounded human dissection in medical education; students could be expelled for divulging the source or the identities of “subjects,” while anatomy professors, demonstrators, and janitors vigilantly guarded the dissection room’s secrets. Given these circumstances, it is remarkable and striking that medical students documented and commemorated this rite of passage, inviting the eye of the camera to capture them posing with “their” cadavers. For nearly the next half century, through the 1920s, the dissection portrait became one of the most archetypal and ubiquitous forms of medical student portraiture. These photographs were made in a surprising variety of forms: class portraits, cartes de visite and postcards, and staged dark humor scenes. Despite its widespread circulation, the dissection portrait genre vanished almost completely after 1950, marginalized by changing sensibilities and values. *Dissection* features 138 extraordinary, rare historic photographs of the unseen world of the rite of passage into the mysteries of medicine.

John Harley Warner introduces the selection of images with a compelling essay on their cultural and professional meaning, while Jim Edmonson provides an iconographic analysis of the genre.

Copies of *Dissection* should be available by the annual meeting of the Cleveland Medical Library Association on April 3. The Dittrick will offer to CMLA members and friends of the Dittrick a pre-publication discount on purchase of this fascinating book. Details on this discount purchase will follow in a mailing to CMLA and Dittrick mailing lists.

Cover of *Dissection*
**Dittrick hosting the American Association for the History of Medicine**

On April 23–26 the Dittrick will host the 82nd annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine. The meeting will take place at the Intercontinental Hotel, but portions will be held at the Allen and Dittrick. Specifically, the Garrison Lecture will occur on Friday, April 24 in the Ford Auditorium, followed by a reception throughout the Allen and the Dittrick.

To underwrite the cost of the meeting and keep registration low ($185) we have received sponsorship and support from the following: American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy; Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University; Cleveland Medical Library Association; Kaiser Permanente Foundation; Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation and R. J. Fasenmyer Center for Clinical Immunology Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

Registration and information about the AAHM meeting will be found on the AAHM website: www.histmed.org/annual_meetings.htm.

**Handerson Lecture features Simon Chaplin**

The 2009 Handerson Lecture, on Thursday, March 26, 2009 will feature Simon Chaplin (Director of Museums and Special Collections at the Royal College of Surgeons of England), presenting The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hunter.

In this lecture, Mr. Chaplin will raise the question: Who—or what—was the inspiration for Robert Louis Stevenson’s classic gothic thriller The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde? Was it the 18th-century surgeon and anatomist John Hunter? Chaplin will explore the role of anatomical museums in managing the social tension between private dissection and public life in 18th-century London. By reconstructing the relationship between anatomy, art and architecture in John Hunter’s home, Chaplin’s lecture will show how the ‘doctor’s cabinet’ transformed the noisome business of anatomy into a subject of polite interest, and will ask whether modern anatomists can learn lessons in public communication from John Hunter and his contemporaries.

The lecture is free and open to the public. Lecture at 6:00 PM in the Zverina Room (third floor of Allen Medical Library), to be followed by reception in the Powell Room. To RSVP, please contact Jennifer Nieves: jennifer.nieves@case.edu or call 216-368-3648.

For information visit www.cwru.edu/artsci/dittrick/site2/

**Cleveland Medical Library Association annual meeting and lecture will feature John Harley Warner (Yale)**

This year the Cleveland Medical Library Association will hold its annual meeting on April 3, and feature a lecture by John Harley Warner, Ph.D., entitled “The Image of Modern Medicine: Professional Identity and Visual Culture in America at the Turn of the 20th Century.” Warner is Avalon Professor and Chair of History of Medicine at the Yale University School of Medicine, and is also Professor of History and of American Studies at Yale. His books include The Therapeutic Perspective: Medical Practice, Knowledge, and Identity in America and Against the Spirit of System: The French Impulse in Nineteenth-Century American Medicine. John Warner’s recent scholarship explores the interactions among identity, narrative, and aesthetics in the grounding of modern medicine. He asks and addresses intriguing questions of historical sources. Why, for example, in a time of advancing medical sciences, did American medical students prefer to portray themselves in the dissection room rather than the laboratory? And what prompted medical professionals to establish historical collections and libraries that harkened back to a medical past rather than look exclusively toward the future?

Plan on joining us for this important and entertaining evening celebrating the Cleveland Medical Library Association. The business meeting of the CMLA convenes at 5:45 PM in the Ford Auditorium, to be followed by John Warner’s presentation. We will then adjourn to the Powell and Cushing Rooms for refreshments and a display of historical materials. RSVP at 216-368-3642 or e-mail dxk6@case.edu.
Renovations and projects at the Allen Memorial Medical Library and Dittrick Medical History Center, 1999–2009
Total Cost: over $700,000

The distinguished medical history collections cared for and presented by the Dittrick and throughout the Allen Medical Library have been the focus of considerable effort and resources to “put our house in order” over the past decade. Here, then, is an accounting of what work has been going on out front and behind the scenes over the past decade, as well as an acknowledgement of the individuals and organizations that have given generously to make these changes and improvements possible.

MILLIKIN ROOM (1999–2000)
PURPOSE: Installation of microscope collection (lighting and security), Persian rug, blinds, parquet floor, wallpaper
DONORS: Thomas F. Peterson, Cleveland Medical Library Association
IMPACT: Dramatically enhances ambiance of the Millikin Room. On a day to day basis, the room still serves as a quiet reading room. For special events, from Presidential reception to College of Arts & Sciences Visiting Committee dinners, it functions as a place of graceful elegance.

ADELBERT LOBBY (2000)
PURPOSE: Purchase wood cabinets for displays
DONORS: David and Lee Warshawsky
IMPACT: Alerts Library patrons to the presence of the Dittrick Medical History Center, and encourages them to visit the museum gallery.

LOWMAN ROOM (2000)
PURPOSE: Install ceiling lighting, parquet floor, and Persian rug
DONOR: Cleveland Medical Library Association
IMPACT: This renovation came close on the heels of the Millikin Room renovation, and was in fact inspired by it. The room is now so lovely that it has become the favored portrait “photo op spot” at Case (from President Hundert on down), chiefly for the scholarly and distinguished ambiance the room exudes.

ZVERINA ROOM (2001)
PURPOSE: Renovate archival storage as seminar room and museum library
DONORS: Zverina family, Cleveland Medical Library Association
IMPACT: Enabled the Dittrick to more fully serve as a resource for Case. The Zverina Room normally functions as home to the Dittrick Museum library and photo collection, but can also accommodate CWRU seminars using Dittrick collections, particularly SAGES classes (Seminar Approach to General Education and Scholarship).
POWELL ROOM (2002)

PURPOSE: Install exhibits of Dittrick Museum artifacts featuring medical and surgical specialties

DONORS: Jay Ankeney, M.D., the William Bruner, M.D. family; CWRU Department of Radiology, John R. Haaga, Chair, Department of Gynecology, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Tommaso Falcone, M.D., Chair; Department of General Surgery, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, J. Michael Henderson M.D., Chair; Northeast Ohio Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, through the support and cooperation of Bruce Cameron, M.D.

IMPACT: As in the case of the Millikin Room, the Powell Room renovation simply enhanced an already elegant room. And like the Millikin Room, it has become a premier social event venue for CWRU, from Presidential functions, to major events for the Dittrick and CMLA.


PURPOSE: Renovate room and install compact storage for Dittrick's Rare Book collection and archives

DONORS: Thomas F. Peterson, and Cleveland Medical Library Association

IMPACT: The Peterson Room, with its SpaceSaver shelf system, maximizes storage space of our precious rare book and archival collections. The renovation also included optimal environmental controls (66° F; 45%RH) and an adjacent annex for patron use of collections.


PURPOSE: Purchase of rare books and photographs

DONOR: Bequest of Edward Bloch, emeritus anatomy professor

IMPACT: We purchased the unique DeGenaro collection of dissection class photo portraits, the largest of its kind in North America, and the subject of a forthcoming work by James Edmonson (CA&S, CWRU) and John Harley Warner (Yale). We also purchased a landmark rare book on surgical instrumentation, Giovanni Alesandro Brambilla, Instrumentarium Chirurgicum Viennense. [Vienna: M.A. Schmidt, 1781].


PURPOSE: Care of the collection

DONOR: Janssen-Ortho Inc. (Canada)

IMPACT: Defrayed expenses associated with the acquisition of the Skuy Collection, including consultant visit to develop new interpretive strategy for exhibition of collection.

Top: exhibits installed in Powell room, 2002.
Bottom: Contraceptive devices of various eras and media, as artfully presented by Laura Travis.
MUSEUM ARTIFACT STORAGE AND EXHIBIT GALLERY RENOVATION (2005–2007)

PURPOSE: Transfer museum artifact storage to renovated space with compact storage and renovate 3rd floor gallery to accommodate exhibition of Skuy Collection

DONORS: Thomas F. Peterson, and Cleveland Medical Library Association

IMPACT: More space-efficient storage of museum artifact collection, and make space available for presentation of the Skuy Collection in a newly-designed gallery.

MICROSCOPE DISPLAY IN MILLIKIN ROOM (2008)

PURPOSE: Addition of display cabinet on microscopy

DONORS: The Kassen family


SKUY COLLECTION EXHIBIT GALLERY (2008–2009)

PURPOSE: Re-interpret Skuy Collection in completely new exhibition context

DONORS: Anonymous family foundation and Percy Skuy

IMPACT: Present Skuy Collection with greater measure of social and cultural content, to place it in a richer historical context.