



Newsletter of

The Cleveland Medical Library Association



*Gustav C. E. Weber (1828-1912) and four University of Wooster students, c.1876.
The students are, left to right, George Sherman Peck (M.D., 1876), Gustav Weber, Guy B. Case (M.D., 1873),
Charles B. Parker (M.D., 1873), and Theodore A. Weed (M.D., 1877). [Dittrick Acc. 4523]*



From the Director

Ginger Saha, M.S.L.S.

*Trends and Realities
at the Cleveland
Health Sciences Library*

The Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine introduced a new curriculum with the Class of 2010 in July 2006. Dubbed the *WR² Curriculum*, it features case-based learning with small, 9-student Inquiry Groups; larger, 16-student interactive sessions; and the occasional full-class lecture. There are also structure [anatomy and histopathology], clinical medicine [physical diagnosis, physician-patient communication, etc.] sessions. All sessions are supported by an electronic syllabus that includes references to required and recommended readings in textbooks, journals, and websites. The director and the reference librarians at the Cleveland Health Sciences Library's Health Center Library [Michael McGraw and Kathleen Blazar] began working with faculty and the course managers in the School's Office of Curricular Affairs early in the process to 1) help identify which referenced resources were available electronically to Case faculty and students; 2) suggest alternative resources if the ones suggested were not available online; 3) standardize the citation formats, i.e. Vancouver-ize them; and 4) insert hyperlinks in the citations. An efficient workflow has been developed wherein the course manager emails the Microsoft Office Word® document to the librarian who then formats the citations, finds and inserts hyperlinks to articles or chapters or websites or reserve book records in the campus online catalog, and sends the enriched document back to the course manager to post on the e-curriculum site. The posting is time-sensitive, and turnaround time is critical. It is not unusual for Quick Link [Mike] McGraw to return completed documents within 15 minutes! The last two blocks of the new curriculum are currently being rolled out, and the second iteration of the first four blocks has required revisiting old cases and updating them with new resources. We expect this linking service to be in demand for many years to come.

This real time support of a developing curriculum is the library's way of meeting the "Knowledge management in education" challenge articulated in the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries' *Building on Success: Charting the Future of Knowledge Management Within the Academic Health Center*. We have been participating in this effort for over a year and the library's role is now seen as integral to providing the richest curriculum resources possible. Previous curricula,

including an earlier electronic curriculum, were deployed with virtually no library involvement, and with little or no importance given to primary readings, since the emphasis was on lecture texts and accompanying images. This collaboration with the School of Medicine's Curricular Affairs staff and faculty has given the library the opportunity to educate the faculty on the vast range of resources and services available to them beyond the bookmarks to e-journals they have set for themselves. We have found that what seems self-evident to a health sciences librarian, e.g. using a customized, holdings-specific URL to PubMed and its Single Citation Matcher to find an abstract with a link to full-text and then inserting that link into a Word document, is esoteric magic to faculty and staff who approach the literature from a different comfort level. This program has proved to them that reliance on a librarian's hunting and navigation skills is more efficient than struggling to do it themselves. They are grateful to "leave the linking to us" (with apologies to Greyhound), and have a new respect for what libraries and librarians contribute to the School's educational success.

Students' access to assigned readings has been facilitated by making them one click away. Even *NCBI Bookshelf* readings have been formatted to be user-friendly! The embedded links to reserve books have proven a useful tool to get students into the library when they can determine a book's availability before taking that elevator ride down to the first floor. Once there, of course, they ask for help and realize what a time-saver a reference librarian can be.

The library's collection development priorities have been affected, too, and we have expanded access to electronic textbooks and discipline-specific aggregations of e-resources that we know will be used. Targeted use of ebook collections like *AccessMedicine*®, *MDCConsult*®, and *PsychiatryOnline*® has given us a clearer insight into those platforms that work and those that are clunky. We have discovered that the stability of a URL varies across different providers, and that different web browsers can generate different access and display problems, so we are in a better position to help patrons who call with such problems. We have seen our resources as others see them and have come to realize that most are *not* intuitive, or even logically arranged on our website -- finding tools still have a long way to go!

As obvious as it may seem, through the library's involvement with the new curriculum our faculty, staff and students have learned about the practical value of the library and librarians, and we have learned what they really need and want from us. It has been win-win all around!



From the Dittrick Medical History Center

James M. Edmonson, Ph.D.
Chief Curator

Medical photography at the Dittrick: *Dr. Paula Summerly visits the Dittrick*

This past summer the Dittrick hosted a visiting scholar, Paula Summerly, Ph.D., from Scotland. Dr. Summerly contacted me with an interest in the medical photography collections of the Dittrick. Her dissertation, *Visual Pathology: A Case Study in the History of Late Nineteenth Century Clinical Photography in Glasgow, Scotland* (Glasgow, 2003; funded by the Wellcome Trust), featured the use of photography by Sir William Macewen, a pioneer of surgical procedures with an international reputation. From 2004 through 2006 she researched and curated a permanent exhibition entitled *A Healing Passion: Medicine in Glasgow, Past and Present* for the Hunterian Museum (University of Glasgow). Dr. Summerly is continuing historical inquiry into medical photography and came to the Dittrick to undertake a study of the William T. Corlett clinical photography collection. What she found amazed even us.

William Thomas Corlett (1854-1948) attended Wooster Medical School (in Cleveland), and then studied skin diseases in London and Paris (1879-81), qualifying as a fellow in the London Royal College of Physicians. Returning to Cleveland in 1882, Corlett was appointed lecturer, then in 1884 professor, of skin and genito-urinary diseases at Wooster. He resigned to take a lectureship in the same branch at Western Reserve University School of Medicine, and was appointed professor of dermatology in 1887. Returning to Europe in 1889, Corlett visited medical centers in Vienna, Berlin, London, and Paris. In 1890, his title at WRU became professor of dermatology and

Paula Summerly consulting with Tom E. Hinson, Curator of Photography, CMA



This photograph of a smallpox victim is one of the images that was sent to Méheux for hand coloring (Corlett Collection).

syphilology, a chair he held until 1914, when he was appointed senior professor. Corlett was one of the nation's leading authorities on exanthematic diseases (infectious diseases accompanied by skin eruptions), including smallpox.

During his long and fruitful career, Corlett took pictures of his patients, to document the variety and range of maladies of the skin, as well as patients being treated for syphilis and gonorrhoea. In 2000, when this collection first came to light (it was literally buried, squirreled away in drawers of the bookcases in my office, which is the Corlett Room), I was told by Dr. Lawrence Parish, a leading authority on the history of dermatology, that this is a truly important and significant collection of medical images.



Therefore I was thrilled by Dr. Summerly's expression of interest in conducting research in the Corlett collection. Working with nearly 1,000 images in various media, she particularly focused upon the use of colored images to depict skin conditions. Color, of course, would be an essential factor in accurate identification and diagnosis of many conditions. Corlett strived, according to Dr. Summerly, to attain the highest quality of color image and to this end employed Félix Méheux, an artist at the Hôpital Saint-Louis in Paris. Other photos document one of the first instances of using Paul Ehrlich's "606" -- the first "magic bullet" of modern chemotherapy -- to treat one of Corlett's patients suffering from syphilis in 1910. ("606" was actually arsphenamine, and was also known under the trade name *Salvarsan*.)

This Fall, you can see an exhibition in the Allen Library (Cushing Reading Room) entitled *Photographing Dermatology: The Collections of William Thomas Corlett (1854-1948)*. This exhibition is based upon Dr. Summerly's research in the Corlett photography collections, and was crafted with the able help of Laura Travis. The exhibition will be on display through November 25th. The short duration of the exhibition is dictated by the light sensitive character of the original photographs on display. Dr. Summerly will be publishing an accompanying article on Corlett's

photography, and the Dittrick website will host an online version of the article in coming months.

Dissection images book project underway.

I am pleased to report that the Dittrick's collection of dissection class portraits will be featured in a coming book to be published by Laura Lindgren of *Blast Books*, publisher of the Mütter Museum calendars and two recent books featuring images from the Mütter. (<http://www.blastbooks.com/mutter/index.html>) In late July Laura Lingren came to Cleveland to examine the image collection, and meet with me, the Dittrick staff, and John Harley Warner, a distinguished historian of medicine at Yale. John and I will contribute essays in the book to provide a context for viewing and interpreting these compelling images. This project has been a long time in the gestation, since the first acquisition of dissection portrait images in 1999. We have added to that collection over the intervening years, so that they number around 250 images. With such a large array, it is possible to discern the character and composition of this unusual genre of medical photography. These images constitute a moving testimony to the centrality of anatomy in medical students' identity. Dissection gave more than merely utilitarian knowledge; dissecting a cadaver compelled students to come to terms with their own apprehensions and anxieties about



Group portrait of four students and cadaver in dissecting room, University of Pennsylvania, c.1895. (1999.34.21)

death, and the bodies of the dead. The resolution of these issues gave medical students a sense of mastery and power. It engendered a special camaraderie among physicians, and at the same time set them apart from the rest of society. Through dissection they had been inducted into the medical profession, even if much study remained before them. Given the centrality of this experience, it is little wonder that students sought some way to record it. The advent of photography in 1839 gave them a remarkable, compelling new means to do so, and this book project will bring those remarkable images to a broader audience. We will keep you apprised of a publication date.

Medical museums in the blogosphere:

Morbid Anatomy

New and varied interest in medical museums continues to crop up on the web. One of the more intriguing and visually arresting is *Morbid Anatomy*, a weblog of medical illustrations and images created by graphic artist, photographer, and designer, Joanna Ebenstein. (<http://morbidanatomy.blogspot.com/>) I first spoke to Joanna last Spring when she was in search of contact information regarding medical museums in Europe and the UK. She was planning a trip to take photographs of medical museum collections, chiefly anatomical and pathological specimens, medical models and wax moulages. Like many other creative individuals, Joanna became fascinated, even enthralled, by the morbid things that reside in medical museum collections. She's not alone, by any stretch. Medical museums have drawn new audiences never intended or conceived of by their creators. Founders and trustees of the Mütter Museum, for example, thought that their principal audience would be medical students and medical practitioners. While those groups are still drawn to the Mütter, completely new constituencies are attracted by the bizarre and the lurid, and flock to the museum (this year's attendance may reach 80,000). Artists amongst them see eerie and macabre beauty in the Mütter collections, and attempt to capture it in creative ways. Joanna responded to the Mütter collections in this fashion, through the medium of photography. Her work at the Mutter piqued her curiosity about medical museums more generally, and hence her month-long pilgrimage to medical museums abroad. What she saw and photographed provided still further inspiration that resulted in *Morbid Anatomy*. Many of the postings on the blog are newsworthy items about medical collections across the globe. For example, a recent posting featured the new web access to the Wellcome Collection's repository of images, "the world's leading source of images on the history of medicine, modern biomedical science and clinical medicine." (<http://images.wellcome.ac.uk/indexplus/page/News.html>) By visiting *Morbid Anatomy* you'll find much of interest regarding medical museums.

Coming events

Exhibits of note

This fall we will have two successive exhibits in the Cushing Reading Room. The first, mentioned above, *Photographing Dermatology: The Collections of William Thomas Corlett (1854-1948)*, will be on display through November 25. *Photographing Dermatology* features the photography collection of Cleveland's first professor of dermatology, William Thomas Corlett.

The second exhibit, entitled *The scourge of Nazi medicine: the Pernkopf anatomy atlas and eugenics in the museum context*. This exhibit will be mounted to complement the exhibition, *Deadly medicine: Creating the master race*, at the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, Sept. 25, 2007 – Jan. 20, 2008. *Deadly*



The Wonder of Life exhibit, Germany, 1930's (Bruno Gebhard Collection).

medicine is on loan from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C., and features artifacts, photographs, film footage, and eyewitness and survivor testimonies to tell a chilling story of eugenics and racial "cleansing" in Nazi Germany. Some of this material comes from the Bruno Gebhard collection at the Dittrick. Gebhard served as curator of the German Hygiene Museum in Dresden from 1927 until he and his wife Gertrude Herrmann Gebhard fled Germany in 1937. He helped plan the Cleveland Health Education Museum and became its first director in 1940. Gebhard's personal papers include scores of photos of eugenics displays in German exhibitions and museums, and these will be presented through February. For more information about *Deadly medicine*, see the Maltz Museum website: <http://www.maltzjewishmuseum.org/>.

Zverina Lecture: Jonathan Sadowsky on electroconvulsive therapy



Jonathan Sadowsky

On Thursday, October 18 at 6:00 PM, Prof. Jonathan Sadowsky will present “The History of a Side Effect: Electroconvulsive Therapy and Memory Loss, 1940-The Present.” Prof. Sadowsky is the Dr. Theodore J. Castele Professor of Medical History & Chair of the History Department. His research interests focus upon the history of psychiatry, and for this presentation he concentrates upon a topic related to his forthcoming book on electroconvulsive therapy. Prof. Sadowsky writes, “Ever since the invention of convulsive therapy for mental illness in the 1930s, patients and clinicians have noticed that it held some risk of memory loss. The extent and permanence of the losses have been the subject of great controversy, however. This presentation will juxtapose two kinds of evidence about this side effect—clinical scientific studies, and subjective patient accounts. It will argue that different, and changing, understandings of what constitutes a clinical fact account for the controversy over memory loss—and in turn help to explain why electroconvulsive therapy itself has been so controversial.” Professor Sadowsky’s talk begins at 6:00 PM in the Herrick Room of the Allen Library.

Dittrick Travel:

Museums and Natural Wonders of Scotland **May 7 – 19, 2008**

Tour Leaders: Dr. Bruce Latimer, Executive Director, CMNH and Dr. Jim Edmonson, Chief Curator of the Dittrick Medical History Center and Museum, CWRU

The Dittrick Travel Program is now partnering with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History to offer a specially enhanced reprise of our Scotland tour. Join Bruce Latimer and Jim Edmonson on this custom designed 12 day tour uncovering the natural history, medical heritage, and culture of Scotland. We’ll spend three days in Glasgow, which will include a privileged behind the scenes tour of the Hunterian Museum with curators Maggie



Surgeons Hall of Pathology Museum, Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh.

Reilly and Paula Summerly, a tour of Stirling Castle set high on an extinct volcano overlooking the battlefields on which William Wallace and Robert the Bruce fought for Scottish independence, and a private dinner in the historic surroundings of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. We will then head to the rugged northern regions of Inverness past Loch Ness and the Cairngorm Mountains, have a tour of the Royal Scottish Zoological Society’s Wildlife Park by the Director and view the Great Caledonian Forest’s primeval woodland habitat. Then it’s on to the western coast’s Isle of Skye where the unique geology and local fauna are in contrast to the verdant lowlands near Oban. We finish the tour in the lively university town of Edinburgh where a special walking tour of Edinburgh’s “Medical Triangle” has been devised for us by Sheila Devlin-Thorp, and we will conclude with a visit to the Museums of the Royal College of Surgeons led by Dawn Kemp. This tour will also be co-sponsored by the Mütter Museum of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

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ASSOCIATION
11000 EUCLID AVENUE, CLEVELAND, OH
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**Handerson Lecture:
Sam Alberti on 19th century anatomy collections**

In the Spring, on Thursday April 17, Dr. Sam Alberti (Manchester Museum and University of Manchester) will present the annual Handerson Lecture in the Herrick Room on the ground floor of the Allen Library. His presentation, "Bodies on display: morbid specimens in nineteenth-century Britain", will focus on the history of nineteenth century anatomy collections, their ownership, acquisition routes and place in wider culture. This topic should have particular relevance and resonance given debates in recent years over human remains in museum collections, both here and in the UK. Dr. Alberti's presentation is part of a larger project exploring nineteenth-century anatomy collections. The lecture, which begins at 6:00PM in the Herrick Room, is free and open to the public, and will be followed by a reception in the Powell Room in the Allen Library.

Correction:

We wish to rectify an omission in our last newsletter. On its cover we featured an arresting image found on a homeopathic medicine cabinet. We failed to mention at that time that the artifact was the gift of Mitzie Verne, longtime friend of the Dittrick. We apologize for this oversight.



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Phone Numbers

(Area code 216)

Edmonson, James	368-6391
Holian, Dzwinka	368-3642
Saha, Virginia	368-3436
Circulation	
Allen Library	368-3643
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Hours

For information, call either reference desk listed above
or see "On the Web" below.

On the Web

Cleveland Health Sciences Library

<http://www.cwru.edu/chsl/homepage.htm>

For hours see: <http://www.cwru.edu/chsl/hc.htm>

Dittrick Medical History Center

<http://www.cwru.edu/artsci/dittrick/site2/>

For hours see: <http://www.cwru.edu/artsci/dittrick/site2/operations/>

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Cleveland Medical Library Association
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DATES TO REMEMBER

October 18, 2007 Anton and Rose Zverina Lecture, Dr. Jonathon Sadowsky speaking on: *The History of a Side Effect: Electroconvulsive Therapy and Memory Loss, 1940-The Present*.

November 25, 2007 Last day of the exhibition, *Photographing Dermatology: The Collections of Dr William Thomas Corlett (1854-1948)*, located in the Cushing Reading Room.

November 29, 2007 New exhibit opens, *The scourge of Nazi medicine: the Pernkopf anatomy atlas and eugenics in the museum context*, located in the Cushing Reading Room.

April 17, 2008 Handerson Lecture, Dr. Sam Alberti (Manchester Museum and University of Manchester) will present *Bodies on display: morbid specimens in nineteenth-century Britain*.

May 7 – 19, 2008 Medical Museums and Natural Wonders of Scotland, more details inside this newsletter.