Duke University Medical Center Archives NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Issue 1
Summer 2006

Inside this Issue:

Welcome to the Archives	1
Introduction to Oral History	1
Meet the Archives Staff	2
Recent Acquisitions	2
Introduction to the Society & PA History Center	3
Name Search Puzzle	4

Physical Address:
1408-A Christian Ave
Durham, NC 27705

Phone: 919-383-2653

Mailing Address:
DUMC Archives
DUMC 3702
Durham, NC 27710

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday
8am - 5pm

Saturday
By Appointment

Sunday
Closed

Holidays
Call Ahead

Welcome to the Archives

Russell Koonts, Director

The scene is a familiar one. After numerous run-ins with his adversaries, Indiana Jones finally delivers the Ark of the Covenant to the powers in Washington. As the movie ends, the Ark has been boxed up and shipped off to some warehouse where it will soon be forgotten. Such is the popular misconception of the Archives. While we are located in a warehouse, the similarities to this scene end there. The Duke University Medical Center Archives is an active and vital member of the Medical Center community.

The impetus for an archive at the Duke University Medical Center was an October 1965 article published in the *Intercom*, the forerunner of *Duke Dialogue*, entitled, "Wait, Please...Before You Throw That Away!" The authors requested that individuals send in their "priceless" materials to become part of the reading room of the new Medical Center Library, to be devoted to the "History of Duke University Medical Center." Barnes Woodhall, M.D., Vice Provost, and G.S.T. Cavanagh, then Director of the Medical Center Library, coordinated this first formal attempt to collect materials. Three years later, through the support of a grant from the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, Elon Clark, coordinator and professor of medical art, began

(cont'd on p. 2)

Introduction to Oral History

Jessica Roseberry, Oral History Coordinator

History, and indeed life, is about stories. How did the fatal shooting of a doctor in 1941 affect the Duke Hospital staff? Dr. William Henry Muller, Jr., who was a medical student at that time, indicates that the effect was complex: "I think people in medicine learn to accept that sort of thing much quicker than someone who is not in medicine. You are accustomed to seeing people in the operating room. You are accustomed to seeing ill people. You are accustomed to seeing people die, and that's what happened to him." And yet, he says, "We were . . . distressed." This event and others in Duke's history suggest the need for exploration beyond bare facts. Stories need to be told. What was it like when African-Americans first worked at Duke Medical Center as professionals? How were conscientious objectors treated at Duke Hospital during World War II? Understanding the web of events and stories that make up Duke Medicine's history helps us to fathom *why* things are the way they are, and also points us to the equally compelling

(cont'd on p. 3)

Welcome to the Archives (continued from page 1)

collecting official papers, photographs, printed materials, and interviews pertaining to the history and business of the Medical Center. Through the interest and participation of many Medical Center faculty members, the Medical Center Archives was formally established in 1977.

The Archives actively collects the official records of the administrative offices, departments and divisions of Duke Medicine, and the Schools of Medicine and Nursing, including a variety of materials that provide evidence of the business, interests, and activities through the years. Centralizing materials and relieving individual offices of the burden of storing and servicing records promotes greater and more efficient use of records.

In 2003, the Archives broadened its focus and started collecting the personal research, correspondence, teaching materials, and stories of individuals who have pioneered here at Duke. By collecting these personal paper and electronic based materials and the audio recordings of oral history, the Archives has established itself as the preeminent source for materials relating to the history of the Duke University Medical Center, its growth, innovations, and its people.

In 2007, the Archives will be celebrating its 30th anniversary. As we embark on our fourth decade, the Archives staff is working on several projects to move our unique resources from the shelves of our warehouse to the classroom, laboratory, and Internet where all can research and discover the numerous contributions of the Duke University Medical Center. ■

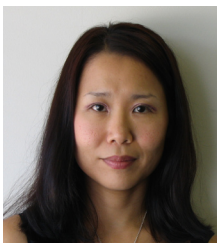
Meet the Archives Staff

Mira Waller, Assistant Director
Reference, Outreach, & Education Librarian

Russell Koonts, Director & Archivist, joined the Archives in January 2003. As Archives Director, he sets policies regarding what materials should be archived, identifies key people to contact regarding personal paper donations, and explores new technologies and techniques applicable to archives, manuscripts, and electronic records. **"What hath god wrought!", Samuel B. Morse & the first telegram. "Mr. Watson, come here; I want you.", Alexander Graham Bell & the first telephone call. "QWERTYIOP or something similar." Ray Tomlinson recalling the first e-mail message.**

Jessica Roseberry, Oral History Program Coordinator, came to Duke in September 2003. Jessica researches and conducts interviews with key members of the Duke medical community. These interviews allow her to capture differing viewpoints and perspectives. **"Oral interviews allow us to hear a living, breathing medical community,."**

Adonna Thompson, PA History Archivist, began her position in May 2006. In this role she collects, preserves, provide access & promotes historical materials about the physician assistant profession. Her position is dually based out of the Duke Medical Center Archives and the Eugene Stead Center. **"I enjoy the diversity of tasks; oral histories, archiving, collection development, resource development, outreach, & education."**



Mira Waller, Assistant Director & Reference, Outreach, & Education Librarian, previously the Physician Assistant History Archivist, became the Reference, Outreach, and Education Librarian on April 2006. Mira focuses on public awareness, reference services, education, and outreach for the archives. **"As an archivist & librarian I am priviledged with the opportunity to learn, share, & explore information with others."**

Recent Acquisitions

- 3 slide cabinets containing 10,000-12,000 individual slides & 10 slide drawers full of cytology related slides
- Materials pertaining to Alpha Omega Alpha, Duke University chapter
- Records from the School of Nursing
- Vicki Y. Saito records
- Blaine Nashold papers

Introduction to Oral History (continued from page 1)

question of *who* can give testimony. The mission of the archives oral history program is to preserve the stories of people who can say with first-person authority that they moved a significant event forward, that they witnessed it, or that it effected them.

Narrative is democratizing. Oral history invites the makers of history, such as department chairs and hospital administrators, to speak with as much authority as persons who are typically underrepresented in the body of recorded history, such as former employees, LPNs, staff workers, and wives of chairs or chiefs. Each is invited to become part of the historical record. Each is invited to tell his/her own story in his/her own words.

After engaging in careful research, the oral historian conducts an interview with one of these witnesses. The interview process is recorded and preserved in the Medical Center Archives. It is also transcribed to make it more accessible. The transcript is carefully reviewed for its accuracy against the recording to preserve the original intent and rhythm of the speaker; only the person who has been interviewed will make any changes to the transcript.

Because of its eyewitness, intimate nature; because of its democratization, personalization, and accessibility, oral history is a remarkable resource for understanding the past. It proves its value to the person telling the story, to the historian researching the story, to the documentarian listening to it. These stories and the voices that tell them allow us to hear the past in a deeper, fuller way. ■

Introduction to the Society & PA History Center

Adonna Thompson, PA History Archivist

The Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History (SPPAHx or the Society) is a relatively new organization whose goal is to preserve, study, and present over 40 years of PA history to medical professionals, researchers, educators, and the general public. It was first established as the History Office in 2001 within the Department of Community and Family Medicine at Duke University Medical Center. In 2002 the SPPAHx was incorporated and now serves as the governing body of the Physician Assistant History Center (PAHx). The American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA), the Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA), National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA), and the Duke University Medical Center (DUMC) Library & Archives all provide support for the Society.

The Society's partnership with Duke University was a natural fit as Dr. Eugene A. Stead, Jr. is considered the founding father of the PA profession. Dr. Stead established the first formal education program for Physician Assistants at Duke University. In addition, the Society - and myself as a professional - benefit from having the support, guidance, and knowledge of the DUMC Library & Archives staff.

Dr. Reginald Carter, PhD, PA, former director of the PA program at Duke University, spearheaded the PA history center project and now serves as director and PA historian for the SPPAHx. Dr. Carter and the SPPAHx office are now housed out of the new North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants' (NCAPA,) Eugene A. Stead, Jr. Center for Physician Assistants, located in the scenic Research Triangle Park. Although we rent space from the NCAPA our landlords are very generous. We have office space for the Society's director as well as many shared areas, such as the Stead museum, Reading Room, copy center workroom, and the archives room. We have also agreed to provide NCAPA with archival guidance. My time is therefore divided between the Center and DUMC Archives depending on the project.

Dr. Carter and I are currently developing an introduction to archives training workshop, which we will debut at the PAEA annual conference in October. Our goal is to educate all PA organizations about the importance of saving their history through archival practices.

For more information about the Society, PA history, PA organizations, or to contact Dr. Carter or myself please visit the Society's website http://www.pahx.org/. We have a great site packed with all manner of information on PAs. The site includes photographs, a PA historical timeline, articles, online exhibits, biographies, a list of our oral history and audiovisual collections, and a searchable database of our digital archive collection. ■

Duke University Medical Center Archives

DUMC 3702

Durham, NC 27710

Check out our website at

http://archives.mc.duke.edu

Find each of the following individuals.

William G. Anlyan
Wilburt C. Davison
Victor J. Dzau
Edward W. Holmes
Ralph Snyderman
R. Sanders Williams
Barnes Woodhall

O	R	A	L	P	H	S	N	Y	D	E	R	M	A	N	M	E	N	E	R	O	D	E
N	E	W	L	N	W	D	M	O	D	H	S	D	M	V	A	N	I	Y	E	S	E	L
A	S	M	A	I	L	L	I	W	S	R	E	D	N	A	S	R	0	R	I	I	J	E
E	V	I	C	T	O	R	J	D	Z	A	U	A	U	L	I	I	A	P	L	R	A	O
R	I	C	L	U	A	L	L	S	Z	R	I	B	G	R	J	H	O	A	O	N	I	H
J	R	U	D	L	D	A	Z	L	E	N	E	E	N	O	C	N	D	L	D	I	W	L
I	W	L	W	L	A	L	A	N	D	S	W	S	O	G	V	Y	T	D	X	B	W	L
E	W	V	Z	L	T	E	L	S	E	B	E	O	P	A	E	B	D	A	N	M	I	A
O	D	N	L	E	L	L	A	H	D	O	O	W	S	E	N	R	A	B	E	A	P	L
S	S	L	A	D	S	M	Y	M	E	R	N	G	L	A	E	L	S	O	A	D	H	A
L	W	I	L	B	U	R	T	C	D	A	V	I	S	O	N	O	N	S	E	W	S	R
A	E	O	P	W	I	L	L	I	A	M	G	A	N	L	Y	A	N	A	N	H	L	M
V	L	D	W	L	A	O	R	A	L	A	S	H	E	N	R	W	E	L	N	E	O	H
O	M	E	O	D	E	D	W	A	R	D	W	H	O	L	M	E	S	E	S	T	W	W
D	L	H	I	D	L	I	Z	B	I	N	V	N	R	P	S	K	A	N	D	O	I	H
L	L	U	L	S	N	R	C	C	A	A	L	A	B	W	A	A	T	G	I	E	C	A

Please contact Mira Waller at mira.waller@duke.edu for answer key.

Please let us know if you enjoyed our newsletter & would like to continue receiving it by contacting Mira Waller at mira.waller@duke.edu
Please indicate if you would prefer print or electronic.