Google. YouTube. MySpace. Amazon. Technology has made it possible to get virtually anything you want any time of the day or night from the comfort of your home or office. Need to shop for that last minute Christmas gift? Go to the Internet. Need to find an illustration for that upcoming lecture? Go to the Internet. Presently, over 233 countries are connected to the Internet and it is estimated that nearly 1.1 billion people world-wide use the Internet. (http://www.internetworldstats.com/stats.htm) At this point, you may be saying to yourself, “That’s interesting, but what does it have to do with Archives?”

In 2005, with help in the form of a grant from the Josiah Charles Trent Memorial Foundation, Inc., the Duke University Medical Center Archives (DUMCA) digitized over 500 images from our collections which document the growth and development of the Medical Center during its first three decades. (http://archives.mc.duke.edu/foundations/index.htm). Although this project was developed to help celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Medical Center, it provided DUMCA staff with the opportunity to develop the infrastructure and skills necessary to make other types of resources available via the Internet.

In October 2005, DUMCA began using DSpace, an open source digital repository application developed by (cont’d on p. 2)

The oral history program at the Duke Medical Center Archives has been working industriously to capture the voices of many different kinds of people Duke Medicine. After completing transcription work with a grant made possible by the Josiah Trent Foundation, the oral historian is now focusing on several other projects. The first of these is with the Faculty Women’s Committee, which is designing a visual exhibit to be displayed in the hospital to honor women in medicine at Duke. The committee has enlisted the oral historian to help them select, research, and interview important women who have made an impact on Duke Medicine. Women such as Dr. Catherine Wilfert, Dr. Jean Spaulding, and Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans have so far been interviewees. Others will follow as the selection process continues.

Some physicians associated with the Duke databank have also enlisted the oral historian to interview important persons in the history of the databank. Drs. Galen Wagner and Brent Mittler are beginning work on a book and an online exhibit to present this history utilizing oral history interviews. Among the persons to be (cont’d on p. 3)
MIT (http://dspace.org) to make our digitized content available to researchers. This application allows for items to be indexed and searched by commercial search engines such as Google. Additionally, by implementing DSpace, we were able to provide access to more than just digitized photographs. We accomplished this by adding an oral history interview with Dr. H. Keith H. Brodie. In September of this year, as part of the DUMC Library’s agreement with the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society, DUMCA added articles from the UHMS journal to the repository and “officially” launched MeDSpace: Duke Medicine Digital Repository. (http://dspace.mclibrary.duke.edu)

In addition to providing the infrastructure for our digital projects, MeDSpace also allows DUMCA to provide a place for Medical Center faculty and researchers to post copies of their articles. At present, there are no such articles in MeDSpace, but this is a service which the Archives will be promoting in the coming months. For more information on this and other digital initiative please contact Russell Koonts at russell.koonts@duke.edu or 383-2653.

Upcoming & Recent Events

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

Archives at Alumni Weekend

For the past four years the Duke Medical Center Archives has participated in celebrating the Duke University School of Medicine’s (SOM) Alumni Weekend. This past year on the weekend of October 13-15, 2006, as alumni from the SOM classes ending in the numbers one and six returned to campus, the Archives exhibited a paneled display board and “mini” documentaries. The display featured photographs, memorabilia, and yearbooks spanning the 1930s to the 2000s. The “mini” documentaries featured sound clips (from oral histories housed at the archives) combined with a series of related photographs.

Tea with Trailblazers

The Duke Medical Center Library and Archives will be hosting the second of what we hope will become a series of annual events under the title “Tea with the Trailblazers.” These events will focus on celebrating “trailblazers” in Duke Medicine. This segment of the series will be held in February in honor of Black History Month, to pay tribute and learn from the experiences of African-American pioneers in Duke Medicine. The event will be held on February 9, 2007 from 2:30 to 4:00pm at the History of Medicine room in the Duke University Medical Center Library. Refreshments will be provided. The event is free and open to the public.

This year’s panelists include Dr. Evelyn Wicker and Donna A. Harris. Dr. Wicker was an early African-American nursing administrator and a former director of nursing services at Duke South. Harris was the first African-American to graduate from Duke’s School of Nursing and is currently a research nurse at Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill. Both panelists will share their stories and then the floor will be opened up for the audience to ask questions and share their own experiences.

For more information about this event, the “Tea with the Trailblazers” series, or to suggest a future panelist please contact Mira Waller at mira.waller@duke.edu or Jessica Roseberry at jessica.roseberry@duke.edu or phone 919-932-3394.

Introducing Dawne Howard

Head of Technical Services, began her position in January 2007. In this role she focuses on acquiring, processing, & cataloging archival materials; implementing descriptive standards for collections; managing the Archive’s online database of historical images; and encouraging the use of the Archives as a secure and safe permanent repository.
contacted about interviews are Dr. Andrew Wallace, Dr. Joseph Greenfield, Dr. Rob Califf, and Dr. David Pryor. In February, the oral historian will present the results of the aforementioned Trent Foundation Grant, awarded to the oral history program in 2005. This grant allowed the oral history program to transcribe twenty-three previously existing interviews and eleven newly created interviews. The foundation specified that the second portion of the grant be used to transcribe interviews with women and minorities. In order to expedite the process of making the transcripts available to the public, the oral history program will be enlisting the aid of a student worker to check and double check the transcripts against the recording and to ensure their accuracy and quality.

The Duke Medical Center Archives has also received a donation of digital video equipment from Professor Emeritus Dr. Blaine Nashold. The equipment will be useful in recording specific interviews and special events.

The Duke Medical Center Library and Archives will be hosting a second annual event called “Tea with Trailblazers” to honor pioneers in Duke Medicine. The event will be recorded and will become part of the oral history collection at the Duke Medical Center Archives. This year as well as last year, the event will be held in February as a celebration of Black History Month. The event will highlight several African-American trailblazers who paved the way for other workers at Duke Medicine. (For a transcript and/or recording of the 2006 event, please contact Jessica Roseberry at 919-383-2653 or at jessica.roseberry@duke.edu). Please see the article on page 2 for further information about this upcoming special event.

Society & PA History Center Update
Adonna Thompson, PA History Archivist

Over the last few months we have undertaken some exciting new projects and the following list highlights but a few.

In August Dr. Carter and I traveled to Seattle to survey the MEDEX Program’s archival holdings at the University of Washington. We were pleased to discover that they have placed within the university’s archives, the early correspondence from Dr. Richard Smith containing information regarding the foundations of the program. And while reviewing files within the MEDEX Northwest offices we were given an item level container list as well as any copies of the materials that we found noteworthy.

A major project that has consumed much of my time over the past couple of months has been the preparation of a Basics of Archives Workshop. We held this three hour workshop at the Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA) conference in Quebec City at the end of October and have deemed it a success. We had ten participants and positive feedback from everyone, so much so that we are planning another workshop to be held at the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) conference in May 2007.

I have recently begun an inventory and processing project for the PAEA collection. This is a relatively large collection (approximately 25 boxes) that has passed through many different hands (primarily each generation of PAEA leadership). The collection is very important to physician assistant history but due to previous handling, will be challenging to process.

At the Eugene Stead Center we have completed the installation of a veteran’s memorial wall entitled “In Honor of Those Who Served”. The wall includes artwork and posters honoring veterans from all branches of the armed services who have served in a medical capacity.

The SPPAHx Special Collection webpage has been revised and updated. This page provides background information about the SPPAHx, its staff, and its collections. It also serves to link the SPPAHx Special Collection, DUMC Archives, and the PAHx websites together. To explore this page go to: http://archives.mc.duke.edu/programs/sppahx/SPPAHx.html

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/.
Please let us know if you enjoyed our newsletter. If you have any suggestions for future articles or questions about the newsletter please contact Mira Waller at mira.waller@duke.edu.

Historical Moments in Duke Medicine

Across

1. In this chamber Duke conducts the first recorded studies of humans' ability to function and work at pressures equal to a 1,000-foot deep-sea dive.
5. These clinics were organized on September 15, 1931.
6. The Duke pediatrician who led the push for drug companies to develop the child-proof safety cap.
7. Baker House was named after this individual.
8. Pioneered the use of ultraviolet lamps in operating rooms.

Down

2. In 1965 duke established the nation's first program.
3. In 1940 this individual was nominated for the Nobel Prize for his studies of the metabolism of the tubercle bacillus.
4. First Dean of the Duke University School of Medicine and Hospital.
7. This individual developed a vaccine against equine encephalomyelitis.

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