From the Director’s Chair
Russell Koonts, Director

MeDSpace
(http://medspace.mc.duke.edu/vital/).
Built with the open source applications Fedora and Vital, the MeDSpace repository continues to be the main management system for digital Duke Medicine content. Collections currently housed within MeDSpace are the 3000-plus images that are part of the Medical Center Library’s Historical Images in Medicine (HIM) database, and the Archives’ own Foundations of Excellence (FOE) digitization project. While both of these resources continue to exist as individual collections, housing them in one location allows a researcher to search across the collections. With the addition of a dedicated image server, the end user (cont’d on p. 3)

Oral Historian’s Corner
Jessica Roseberry, Oral History Coordinator

It’s been a busy half year for the oral history program at the Medical Center Archives. A new collaboration with the office of the Associate Vice Dean for Faculty Development resulted in the receipt of a second grant from the Josiah Trent Memorial Foundation. This second Trent grant is being used exclusively for the purpose of highlighting women in Duke Medicine, especially women who came during or prior to the 1970s. The funds will be used to transcribe these interviews and to pay a student to review the transcripts. Many of the interviews for this project are already completed, including interviews with Dr. Rebecca Buckley, Dr. Joanne A. P. Wilson, Dr. Lois Pounds, Dr. Marianne Breslin, and many more. An ongoing online exhibit to highlight these women and others already in the oral history collection will become available in the spring of 2008. Full transcripts of these interviews will be available in the exhibit, so please be watchful for its arrival! A very special event to unveil the exhibit is planned for April of 2008, which will also (cont’d on p. 3)
Duke Medicine went smoke-free on July 4 of this year, but the institution has been encouraging its employees to quit smoking for decades. The November 9, 1979 issue of the Intercom advertises the American Cancer Society’s Great American Smokeout, “a light-hearted, one-day event when smokers can quit for 24 hours and have fun doing it.” In the same issue, former Director of Duke News Service Don Seaver describes how he quit smoking after 29 years. He admits that kicking the habit was not easy, but that he is “enraptured” that he is no longer smoking and admits that his health and sense of taste have improved. Other present-day issues appearing in 1970s issues include childhood obesity and—of course—construction.

Recently, the Duke Medical Center Archives began participating in the School of Nursing’s (SON) Class Reunion celebrations. This past year on the weekend of April 13-14, 2007, as SON alumni returned to campus, the Archives exhibited a panel focusing on the class of 1957. This class represents an important “first” at Duke. They are the first students to complete the four-year professional program in nursing leading to the Bachelor of Nursing degree established at Duke in 1953 under the direction of Dean Florence K. Wilson.

The Medical Center Archives will also be hosting our annual Tea with Trailblazers event in February 2008. Although we are still in the planning stages, the next issue of the newsletter will contain information on the speakers and event specifics. For more information in advance of the next newsletter, check the Archives website in September for the new Tea with Trailblazers ongoing online exhibit. This exhibit will contain photographs, sound clips, and transcripts from the teas, as well as information on how to suggest future panelists and how to contribute to future teas.

If you would like to learn more about any of the events mentioned above or if you would like to suggest any future events, exhibits, and ideas for utilizing the Archive’s tremendous wealth of resources please contact Mira Waller at mira.waller@duke.edu.

The Duke University Medical Center Archives recently acquired a nearly complete run of the Intercom from the Duke University Archives located in Perkins Library. The Intercom circulated at Duke University Medical Center on a weekly basis from 1953 until 1986, providing employees with news about various Medical Center topics, including research findings and parking and construction updates. In 1986, Intercom merged with the Faculty Newsletter and This Week at Duke to become Duke Dialogue.

The Medical Center Archives collects numerous publications from Duke Medicine departments, including INSIDE, the Institute for Genome Sciences & Policy’s GenomeLIFE, and the Comprehensive Cancer Center’s Cancer Center Notes. As the Great American Smokeout example shows, these publications preserve the history of Duke Medicine and remind us about events we might have forgotten over the years.

Although the Medical Center Archives already has many publications, we would love to have more! If your department would like to contribute its publications to the Archives, please contact Dawne Lucas at dawne.lucas@duke.edu.

Intercom: Duke Medicine’s Smoke-Free Initiative Began in the 1970s
Dawne Lucas, Head of Technical Services

On the weekend of October 12-13, 2007 the Duke Medical Center Archives will once again participate in the Duke University School of Medicine’s (SOM) Alumni Weekend. As in previous years, the Archives will exhibit a display featuring photographs, memorabilia, yearbooks, & oral history sound clips.

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From the Director’s Chair (continued from page 1)

can now manipulate an image (rotate, zoom in, zoom out) thereby enhancing their overall experience. As with the previous version of MeDSpace, the Archives is developing the infrastructure to allow departments, programs, and individuals to mount their articles, research reports, technical reports, etc. The change in the software infrastructure will greatly enhance how these materials are made available to the public. The new application allows a donor to stipulate the level of access they would like their materials to have. This can range from full open access to restricted access to complete and total embargo. This ability to completely restrict access will also allow the Archives to use MeDSpace as an electronic archives for permanently valuable Duke Medicine data.

DSpace@DukeMed (http://dspace.mclibrary.duke.edu) Materials originally ingested into DSpace@DukeMed will remain there even if they are migrated over to MeDSpace. The focus of DSpace@DukeMed will be to provide an on-line resource for materials obtained as part of the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS) library transfer to the Duke Medical Center Library or materials later digitized as part of that on-going partnership.

Oral Historian’s Corner (continued from page 1)

be announced more formally through our Website. The nature and content of this project will be distilled into a paper that will be presented at the 2007 Oral History Association Conference in Oakland, California.

A second online project within the purview of the oral history program this year is one to preserve the history of Duke’s cardiovascular databank program. Located within the Division of Cardiology in the Department of Medicine, the cardiovascular databank recorded information on each patient that came into the cardiac catheterization lab or the cardiac care unit during the existence of the databank program. This gave physicians, surgeons, and researchers enormous predictive and research possibilities, and the fame of the databank soon spread across the nation.

PA History Center Update
Adonna Thompson, PA History Archivist

Over the last few months the Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History (SPPAHx) and the Physician Assistant History Center, have undergone several important transitional changes. On July 1, Adonna Thompson became Director and Associate Archivist of the Physician Assistant History (PAHx) Center. Former Director and Historian, Dr. Reginald Carter has once again retired but will remain active as the Center’s historian. In their new roles the Director and Historian will continue to work together on PA projects and planning.

Additionally, the Society has moved from a Board of Directors with a voting membership body to governance by a Board of Trustees who oversees all fundraising efforts for the Society.

Furthermore, another major change, the SPPAHx is now the historic arm of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA). As such, all administrative duties of the Society have been transferred to the AAPA home office in Alexandria, VA. However, this will not effect the day-to-day operations of the History Center, which will remain here in North Carolina. We are pleased to be a part of the AAPA and believe these new ties will strengthen and ensure the continued success of the SPPAHx and the PAHx Center.
Please contact Mira Waller at mira.waller@duke.edu for answer key.