

Trent Associates Report History of Medicine Collections

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Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Ivory Medical Models by Cali Buckley

Ivory medical models remain some of the most elusive objects in the history of science and medicine. Ivory anatomical manikins—those with removable parts—are the smallest and most intricate models of the body's internal workings ever made. They were often passed from one doctor to another, generation after generation. Medical men of the early twentieth century such as Sir Henry Well-



come, Le Roy Crummer, and Josiah Trent made a point to amass not only collections of books but also objects including ivory manikins. These men were searching dusty

antiquarian shops and constantly corresponding with booksellers prior to World War II, when the market was saturated with such objects. Unfortunately, many of them were in Germany, where they likely originated and were lost during the war. The Trent Collection of ivory anatomical manikins is one of the largest in the world, second only to that of the Wellcome Collection in London. Dr. Trent and other collectors saved these objects from destruction and provided us with examples of the best specimens to determine more about their use and history.

(Continued on page 3)

History of Medicine Introduces Travel Grants

This year the History of Medicine Collections inaugurated our travel grant program. Like other collecting areas within the Rubenstein Library, the History of Medicine Collections awarded travel grants to researchers who live outside of a 100-mile radius of Durham, NC, based upon funding and number of applicants. These grants support the costs associated with travel for those who wish to access our collections for research. Expenses covered include transportation (such as air, train, and bus ticket charges as well as car rental), accommodations, and meals. This year, the History of Medicine Collec-

tions offered three travel grants to the following individuals:

Cali Buckley, Ph.D. candidate in Art History, Pennsylvania State University

Alicia Puglionesi, Ph.D. candidate, Institute of the History of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University

Courtney Thompson, Ph.D. candidate, Department of the History of Science and Medicine, Yale University

Congratulations to our travel grant winners. Further details about the travel grant program can be found on our website.

New Collection Guides

HOM in the Classroom

The following classes used materials from the History of Medicine Collections for course instruction.

First-Year Medical Students

- History of Medicine Interest Group

Second-Year Medical Students:

- Pre-clerkship classes in Pediatrics
- Pre-clerkship classes in Surgery

Theater Studies

- Medicine, Performance, and Visual Culture

History:

- Magic, Religion, and Science since 1400



Several new collection guides related to the History of Medicine have been posted. A tremendous thank you to our Technical Services Department in the Rubenstein Library for processing our materials and making them discoverable.

History of Medicine Artifacts

library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/homartifacts/

Building upon extensive work by the previous History of Medicine staff, there is now a guide of the History of Medicine's instruments and artifacts. This collection guide reflects numerous materials including medical instruments, artifacts, realia, and other three-dimensional objects related to the history of medicine, primarily originating from Europe and the United States. Objects range in date from the late 16th to the late 20th centuries, and include medical kits and pharmaceutical items (often in the original cases and bags); equipment used in amputation, obstetrics, ophthalmology, surgery, urology, neurology, and in research and diagnostic settings; instructional objects such as anatomical models and figurines; and other items such as apothecary jars, cupping glasses, infant feeders, microscopes and much more. Our instruments and artifacts can be requested and viewed in our reading room. Many will be on display in the future Trent History of Medicine Room.



History of Medicine Picture File

library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/hompicturefile/

This picture file offers images of individuals, places, and subjects, with the great majority portraying physicians, scientists, nurses, and others related to the history of medicine. Places featured include hospitals and scenes related to events in medical history. Subject categories range from advertising and anatomy to childbirth and surgery, among many others. The predominant formats are engravings, lithographs, print materials (such as posters, clippings, and postcards), and modern photographic prints, but there are also other image formats found throughout the files. Items were acquired by the Duke Medical Library from various sources over many decades.

Japanese Medical Manuscript Notebook Collection

library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/japmedicalvols/

This collection includes over sixty volumes created in Japan from about 1810 to 1849, chiefly by medical students. The notebooks are primarily transcriptions of lectures and demonstrations and pedagogical texts written as manuals by well-known Japanese physicians of the time, especially Hanaoka Seishū and Takenaka Bunpō. Topics covered include herbal medicines and prescriptions; surgery, particularly for cancers, tumors, and fistulas; breast cancer; smallpox; scurvy; treatment of wounds; hematology; gynecology and obstetrics; pediatric medicine; and many other topics. Some notebooks contain black-and-white and color hand-drawn illustrations of surgeries, close-ups of suturing, bandages and wrappings, osteopathic manipulations, and medicinal plants. In most cases, the author or copyist recorded details such the place and time of the lecture and the name of the medical school.

Ivory Medical Models continued

A majority of the manikin models depict pregnant women. These were the innovation of European ivory carvers between the 18th and 20th centuries—a time when women’s medicine was becoming increasingly interesting in academic circles. Before this time, knowledge of the female body was generally the domain of female midwives. Many of these objects have moveable arms. All of them feature removable torsos that can be lifted off to reveal tiny hand-carved organs. They even contain miniature fetuses attached by a small string. These European manikins were owned by doctors in order to teach students—likely male university students and female midwives—about the basic anatomy of the female body.

The Trent Collection also includes three Chinese ivory models, otherwise known as “doctors’ ladies” or “diagnostic

dolls.” Differing from the European models, the diagnostic models from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries show only the external body of a woman. They were made for upper-class women, mostly in China, to explain their symptoms to a physician. Ostensibly, female patients would point to the area of their discomfort rather than risking their modesty by undressing.

Both types of models were made from African or Asian elephant ivory, one of the hardest organic substances and incredibly difficult to carve by hand. They may seem simple by today’s scientific standards, but they are feats of craftsmanship, depicting the organs crucial to understanding the female body at the time.

Cali Buckley is a Ph.D. candidate in Art History at Pennsylvania State University.

Renew or become a member of the Trent Associates!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Make checks payable to Duke University and send to:
Trent Associates for the History of Medicine
Duke University
Box 90185
Durham, NC 27708

Gifts in kind are also appreciated and count toward membership

**You may renew your membership online:
<https://www.gifts.duke.edu/library>**

**Donors giving at the level of \$50 and above are listed in the
Duke University Library Annual Report**

Thank you for your donation!

Trent History of Medicine Lecture Series

Please join us for our Fall Trent History of Medicine Speaker Series on Wednesday, October 29, 2014, at 5:30 p.m.

Karen Kruse Thomas, Ph.D., will present, “**An Unlikely Alliance: Medical Civil Rights Reformers and Southern Senators in the Age of Deluxe Jim**”



Crow.”
Dr. Thomas has served as Historian of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health since 2012. She is the author of *Deluxe Jim Crow: Civil Rights and American Health Policy, 1935-1954* (University of Georgia Press, 2011).

The lecture will be held in Room 217 of Perkins Library. A reception

**History of Medicine
Collections**

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Recent Acquisitions

Desessartz, Jean Charles. *Réflexions sur la musique, considérée comme moyen curatif* ...Paris: Baudouin, imprimeur, an XI [1802]. First edition of this unusual early lecture on music therapy. Gathering together some observations made by earlier writers, Desessartz discusses the effect of music in the treatment of melancholy, hypochondria, madness, and mania, as well as its use in cases of epilepsy, sciatica, and other ailments, and its ability to speed up convalescence.

Marks, Gertrude. *The maternity nurses' daily guide*... London : Baillière, Tindall and Cox, ...1908. Uncommon first edition of this appealing pocket book for maternity nurses, providing a 'daily guide' to the care of mother during pregnancy, childbirth, and post-partum care. The work provides a wonderful insight into maternity care at the turn of the 20th century. The need for a supply of "good brandy," the need to protect the carpet, and the strong advice that the nurse is there to "assist" the doctor during the final stages and "to carry out his wishes, anticipating him as much as possible, and being as quiet and speaking as little as possible" all help paint a highly evocative picture.

Schreber, Daniel Paul. *Denkwürdigkeiten eines Nervenkranken*...Leipzig: Oswald Mutze, 1903. Scarce first edition of what may be the most famous first-person account of madness and quite scarce in the German edition. Legend has it that the author's family bought up and destroyed the edition. The book was surprisingly embraced by the psychiatric profession, inspiring Freud's famous 1911 review: "No one reading all this can escape the thought that Paul Schreber was mad. Yet equally inescapable is the impression that what one is reading is the work of a mentally deranged man who describes what delusions he has experienced, with great precision, intelligence, and integrity."

