Settling In on “2U”: Research and Collections Care at the Recently Renovated Bates Center

In the Spring 2009 issue of The Chronicle, Bates Center staff introduced readers to many features of the new facility which we now occupy on the second floor of Claire M. Fagin Hall at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. To those who have not yet visited this inviting space on “2U,” as this wing is called, we extend a welcoming greeting. We look forward to seeing many familiar faces and to assisting those who will be doing research at the Bates Center for the first time this year.

Curator Gail E. Farr was responsible for planning many aspects of the collections move. Relocating our holdings from the Center’s former stack area, which had been in continuous use since the Center’s founding in 1985 (on the 3rd floor of the Nursing Education Building, as Fagin Hall was originally known), to an entirely different spatial environment proved to be both challenging as well as educational. Curatorial assistants Ira-Joel Sartorius and Keith Mages worked with Gail and a number of student interns to compile an inventory of the Center’s holdings and load the information into a searchable database. This inventory, which identified the content of more than 1,300 linear feet of archival and manuscript material, photographs, printed items, and artifacts as they were packed and transferred to offsite storage during the building renovation, represented the most comprehensive survey of Center holdings prepared to date and served as the backbone for collections relocation planning. The inventory also enabled the Center to provide continuing access to its holdings during the interim period thanks to the able support of the staff of the University of Pennsylvania Archives who serviced requests for Center holdings in the search room.

(continued on page 5)
Barbara Bates Center for The Study of The History of Nursing

The Barbara Bates Center for The Study of The History of Nursing was established in 1985 to encourage and facilitate historical scholarship on health care history and nursing in the United States. The Bates Center maintains resources for research; to improve the quality and scope of historical scholarship on nursing; and to disseminate new knowledge on nursing history through education, conferences, publications, and inter-disciplinary collaboration.

Current projects at the Center include studies of the role of nurses in health care, the history of hospitals, the forces shaping child health care delivery, the nursing workforce and the construction of nurses’ personal and professional lives. The Center also continues to collect, process, and catalogue an outstanding collection of primary historical materials.

Center Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Scholars planning to conduct research at the Center should contact the Center’s curator at 215-898-4502 or email her at nhistory@nursing.upenn.edu. Our curator will respond with a description of the scope and content of relevant materials in the various collections.

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News from the Center

Fairman Awarded Nurse Scholar in Residence at the Institute of Medicine

Julie Fairman, Director of the Bates Center, has been awarded the 2009 Nurse Scholar in Residence at the Institute of Medicine. Her project for the award will be to complete chapter drafts of her third book, which will examine nurse practitioners in the health policy arena post-1980. She will also be working with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission on Investing in the Future of Nursing at the Institute of Medicine, chaired by former Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Donna Shalala. The cornerstone of the work of the Commission will be to conduct a major study that will produce a transformational report on the future of nursing. Major goals include indentifying the vital role for nurses in designing and implementing a more effective and efficient health care system, and identifying and developing recommendations for vital issues in nursing education and practice. The Commission’s work will extend over two years and include three regional town meetings, two policy-oriented workshops, and a national conference.

Center Faculty Receive Prestigious Awards

In the Spring 2009 semester, two Bates Center faculty members received awards from Penn Nursing for their scholarship and service to the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing.

Dr. Patricia D’Antonio received the Legacy Award which is given to alumni who have contributed to preserving and interpreting the history of nursing at Penn. Dr. D’Antonio was chosen for her work as the Associate Director of the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing.

Dr. Julie Fairman received the Dean’s Award for Exemplary Teaching which is given to faculty for educational leadership across the curriculum and for stimulating, inspiring, and challenging students intellectually. Dr. Fairman was selected for this award for her exceptional redesign of the Lynch-Pin course in the doctoral program and for her impact on our doctoral students as future nursing scholars. Drs. D’Antonio and Fairman received their awards during Spring Alumni Weekend.

Grants

Doctoral student Keith Mages received a 2009 Sigma Theta Tau, XI Chapter Research Grant for his proposal, “The Bellevue Classification Scheme: The Cultural Commentary of a Nursing Classification System.” This study examines the Bellevue Classification System, a once-popular, nurse-created library classification system of the early 20th century.

Post Doctoral Fellow Dr. J. Margo Brooks Carthon received a P-30 Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research grant for her study, “Nursing Impact on Patient Satisfaction for African American Patients.” This pilot study investigates the impact of nursing care on patient satisfaction among hospitalized African American patients. Results of this pilot study will be used to inform the development of future NIH grant proposals to further understand disparities in health outcomes of hospitalized African American patients. Dr. Carthon’s Co-Investigator on this project is Dr. Ann Kutney-Lee, PhD, RN, Post Doctoral Fellow in the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research at the School of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Cynthia Connolly recently received three grants: a University of

Doctoral Student Linda Maldonado received a 2009 Fontaine Summer Stipend Award for her research which examines the Philadelphia women’s health movement between 1960-1980.

Center faculty also continue work on the following on-going grants:


**Presentations**

Faculty and doctoral students have been busy presenting their work at numerous conferences and professional meetings. In March 2009, Dr. Joan Lynaugh gave the keynote presentation at the University of Virginia’s Agnes Dillon Randolph International Nursing History Conference. Her talk, entitled *In and Out of Favor: Scholarship and Nursing History* was extremely well received by the audience and provoked much thoughtful discussion.

Several faculty and students also presented their research at the same conference including: **Lynn Houweling**, who presented “Don’t Forget about the Family: Nursing in the Intensive Care Unit, 1965-1980,” **Winifred Connerton** who presented, “Who is the Public in Colonial Public Health?,” **Julie Fairman** who presented “Race and the Complexity of Categories,” **Patricia D’Antonio** who presented with Sylvelyn Hähner-Rombach “Communities of Care: New Questions and New Methods in the History of the German and German American,” **Jean Whelan** who presented “Methodological Innovations: Historical Census Data and Understanding the Past, Present and Future of Nursing,” and **Cynthia Connolly** who presented “I am a Trained Nurse: The Nursing Identity of Anarchist and Radical Emma Goldman.”

**Appointments**

Dr. Cynthia Connolly was named a Senior Fellow of the Leonard Davis Institute, University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Patricia D’Antonio was named to the Affiliated Faculty, Women’s Studies, at The Alice Paul Center for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality, University of Pennsylvania.

**Kudos**

To Gail E. Farr, MA, CA, Bates Nursing History Center Curator, who received an Advanced Certificate in Information Studies and Technology from the College of Information Science and Technology, Drexel University, Philadelphia, in June 2009. The Advanced Certificate in Information Studies and Technology provides specialized training beyond the master’s degree by enabling information professionals to work with a faculty advisor to design a practical program of study that enables them to develop their skills in various areas of interest by taking courses in the Drexel CIS master’s program and through independent research projects. Gail’s program has focused on innovations in the arrangement and description of information resources and on new technologies including digitization.

Congratulations, Gail!
Spotlight on Dr. Patricia D’Antonio

From time to time The Chronicle features stories on particular faculty, members of the curatorial team, and Center staff. This edition, we feature Dr. Patricia D’Antonio, an outstanding scholar and valued faculty member here at the Bates Center.

Arriving at Penn in 1985 to begin her doctoral studies, Dr. D’Antonio has been a familiar and very welcome face in the Center. Dr. D’Antonio received a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Boston College (1977) and a master’s in psychiatric nursing from the Catholic University of America (1982). She received her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in 1992 as one of the first graduates in Penn’s doctoral program in nursing history. She has gone on to serve the Center and the School of Nursing in a variety of teaching and research roles. She joined the standing faculty of the School of Nursing in 2006.

Dr. D’Antonio has had a long standing interest in exploring the historical meaning of nursing practice and of nursing as a profession. Her first book, Founding Friends: Families, Staff, and Patients at the Friends Asylum in Early 19th Century Philadelphia, published in 2006, uncovered the ways in which the too often invisible day-to-day experiences of nurses caring for patients directly influenced important changes in that hospital. It also addressed an enduring clinical tension that still affects practice: how to balance what an individual patient might need against the needs of a larger group of which that patient is a part. This tension is not unique to nursing, and Founding Friends has been positively reviewed in a wide range in interdisciplinary clinical and historical journals, including the Journal of the American Medical Association, the American Historical Review, and the Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences. Dr. D’Antonio’s book and her related research on the history of psychiatric nursing formed the basis of her selection as an “Edge Runner” by the American Academy of Nursing in 2006.

But Dr. D’Antonio is best well known for research that places identity as well as work at the center of the history of nursing. Grants from the National Library of Medicine and a faculty fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities gave her the opportunity to research and write her newest soon to be released book, American Nursing: Neighborhood Work and National Mission. This book is the first major rethinking of nursing’s history since the seminal works of the 1980s when the history of nurses and nurses’ paid work emerged as one of relative powerlessness inherent in the contradictions of the profession’s gendered place in American society and health care. American Nursing, by contrast, is an exploration in possibilities. It uses identity as a critical analytic construct to explore the diverse ways in which women and some men from different racial, ethnic, and class backgrounds reframed the most traditional of gendered expectations—that of caring for the sick—in ways that allowed them to renegotiate the terms of some of their experiences and to reshape their own sense of worth, value, and power. American Nursing explores how women and some men traded valuable work that transformed the care provided in American homes, hospitals, and health care systems for knowledge that changed their sense of themselves, their identity, and their social place. It creates new ways to think about and actualize grassroots support for the profession as it moves to meet the health care challenges of the 21st century as part of its national agenda.

In addition, Dr. D’Antonio continues as the editor of the Nursing History Review, the official journal of the American Association for the History of Nursing and internationally recognized as the leading journal in the field. She serves on the editorial boards in two international nursing journals and two international centers also devoted to the history of nursing. She also holds appointments at the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom, the Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics, and the Women’s Studies and Alice Paul Center at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the recipient of numerous awards including the Legacy Award from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing Alumni Association, the M. Adelaide Nutting Award, and the Lavinia Dock Award from the American Association for the History of Nursing, three “Book of the Year” awards from the American Journal of Nursing, and one from the Journal of Nursing Scholarship. She is currently a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and a consultant to the Robert
Bosch Stiftung History of Nursing Project in Stuttgart, Germany.

Dr. D’Antonio continues to teach the history of nursing and health care in her well received master’s level course, N749, “History, Health, and Social Policy,” where she uses history as an intellectual framework for analyzing contemporary issues in health care practice, management, policy formulation, public health and research. But since her 2006 appointment, she has become directly involved with undergraduate nursing education, in general, and psychiatric nursing education in particular. She is currently the co-chair of the School’s Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC) and the co-leader of a major curriculum revision process. In her teaching and in her research, Dr. D’Antonio remains committed to the creation of new knowledge about the intersections of theory and clinical practice; the connections between leadership and social context; and the links among history, policy, and community presence and national political action.

(Continued from page 11)

at the University Archives while our own prospective new facility was under construction.

The move-in proved to be equally challenging for many reasons. The collection storage areas were configured differently than our previous stack space and various adjustments had to be made to achieve optimal climate control with the new HVAC equipment. Moreover, stack space is at a premium due to the continuing growth of the Center’s holdings over the past two years. Portions of our holdings will continue to remain stored offsite to enable staff to make the most efficient use of the facility.

Collections processing has resumed in a curatorial work area with space for examining incoming material and a computer for preparing finding aids. The processing area is equipped with attractive cabinets for storing supplies and equipment. We have recently acquired a microfilm reader-printer which is also a welcome asset.

The reading room also has a new look. Researchers from our former facility will recognize the portrait of Alice Fisher, first superintendent of the Philadelphia General Hospital Training School for Nurses, and historical furnishings from the turn-of-the-last-century nurses’ home at PGH which mirror the look and feel of some of the nursing school residences portrayed in the Center’s photographic holdings. In addition to these historical artifacts, the reading room houses the Center’s collection of printed works. The researcher tables, chairs, and bookshelves are modern in design but complement the older furniture.

The major difference apparent to the public is that the reading area is now a separate space. Whereas our former reading was a combined reception and search area, researchers now work in a special glass-enclosed facility. The reading room on 2U is both quiet and secure. Researchers are now required to lock up their personal belongings in nearby lockers before they enter the reading room. Researchers are permitted to bring laptops into the reading room but only flatbed, non-automatic-feed scanners are permitted. Photocopying of collection material is done by the staff.

The Center is open for research use from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Researchers are strongly encouraged to arrange their visits at least 48 hours ahead of time to ensure that the items requested will be available when needed. To arrange a visit, please contact the Center’s administrative assistant, Betsy Weiss, at (215) 898-4502; e-mail ehweiss@nursing.upenn.edu.

Meet Doctoral Student Winifred Connerton

Over the years the Bates Center has seen numerous doctoral students carry out cutting-edge research. In this edition of The Chronicle, we begin a new feature in which we introduce a doctoral student to our readers. This issue introduces our readers to Winifred Connerton.

Ms. Connerton has been a nurse for 15 years, a certified nurse midwife for 11, and is now in her fifth year of doctoral studies here at the University of Pennsylvania. Originally, Ms. Connerton was introduced to the history of medicine and science in an elective course she took in college and when she did primary archival research in one of her undergraduate classes as a Women’s Studies major. Once she began her nursing career, Winifred realized she was still interested in history and had the opportunity to take an actual class dedicated entirely to nursing history during her master’s studies at University of California at San Francisco taught by our esteemed colleague, Dr. Marilyn Flood.

Both in her work as a nurse and as a midwife, Winifred’s professional development was shaped by coworkers who came from other countries. Winifred worked in publicly funded clinics or hospitals where the patient populations were primarily immigrants and the staff reflected a similar diversity of national origin. As a result of her ongoing interest in nursing history and her own professional experience with immigrant nurses, when Winifred first arrived at the University of Pennsylvania she decided she would research the history of nurse migration.

Winifred describes the development of her research interests as follows:

“I have worked with nurses from all over the world. On my first unit at Bellevue Hospital in New York City, I worked with nurses from the Philippines, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic. When I became a midwife I worked in a city hospital in the Bronx. At that hospital we served patients from more than 100 countries, and our staff reflected the same international diversity. (The World Cup was a major event that could disrupt the work flow entirely!) My mentor in midwifery was a Jamaican
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# Bates Center Receives Generous Grant

The Bates Center is pleased to announce a generous grant from the Solomon and Sylvia Bronstein Foundation. This grant of $75,000 was made possible by one of our newest Advisory Board members, Marian (Sherman) Matez. “We are most thankful for the support of Marian Matez and for this grant, which will allow us to build on our digital expertise and offer us a way to help the public and nursing professionals understand the important linkages between nursing history and modern clinical practice and health policy strategies,” noted Julie Fairman, PhD, RN, FAAN, Director of the Bates Center.

The significant contribution of the Bronstein Foundation will help the Bates Center to develop an infrastructure for and consolidation of several ongoing digital projects. Perhaps the most significant and advanced at this point is a collaborative project with the University of Pennsylvania Libraries’ Schoenberg Center for Electronic Text and Image to digitize the Philadelphia General Hospital’s School of Nursing’s photo collection (See story page 10). This project, which promises to result in a significant digital source of nursing history data, was advanced considerably with the support of the Bronstein Foundation. The grant will also enable the Center to leverage its long term leadership in the field of nursing history with the research and scholarship of the Center faculty and staff. Their work offers important connections to modern health policy issues such as the nursing workforce, the care of children and the mentally ill, and the positioning of nursing as a formidable force in health care provision.

Digitalization projects are one way to ensure access for scholars to archival collections. These interactive exhibits may include narratives of the collections and search capacities to open access to the public and scholars. Projects of this type are resource-intensive for staff and may be very expensive to undertake. The Bronstein grant will go a long way towards supporting our efforts in this medium.

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**Membership Application to the Barbara Bates Center for The Study of The History of Nursing**

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Please make checks payable to the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania. Your contribution is tax deductible. Thank you.
The Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing is pleased to announce the following recipients of the 2009 Center Fellowships:

**Lillian Brunner Fellowship for Historical Research in Nursing**
Sonya Grypma, PhD, RN  
Associate Professor  
Trinity Western University  
Department of Nursing  
“Worthy of the Name: The Philadelphia Roots of Elizabeth McKechnie, First Missionary Nurse to China”

**Alice Fisher Society Fellowship for Historical Research in Nursing**
Christine Hallett, PhD  
Reader in Nursing History  
Director, UK Centre for the History of Nursing and Midwifery, School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work, University of Manchester  
“Healers, Heroines, and Harpies: Literary Nurses of the First World War”

Jessica Martucci  
Doctoral Candidate  
Department of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania  

Jean C. Whelan, PhD, RN  
Assistant Adjunct Professor of Nursing  
University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing  
“Digitization Project of the Alumnae Association of the Philadelphia General Hospital School of Nursing Photograph Collection”

**Karen Buhler-Wilkerson Fellowship for Historical Research in Nursing**
Cynthia Connolly, PhD, RN  
Associate Professor  
University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing  
“From ‘Mrs. Winslow’s Soothing Syrup’ to ‘Triaminic Infant and Little Colds’”: A History of Children and Pharmaceuticals in the United States”

Two of our 2009 awardees share their research plans and activities.

**Jessica Martucci**
I received a 2009 Alice Fisher Fellowship which provided funding allowing me to spend time in the collections at the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing during the 2009 summer. The Bates Center’s resources and support continue to help me explore the role of nurses in my larger dissertation project, a history of breastfeeding since World War II. The focus of my archival research at the Center has been on the curriculum and policy records of nursing schools and visiting nurse associations in the Philadelphia region during the post-war period. The records of the Albert Einstein Medical Center School of Nursing and Lankenau Hospital School of Nursing have given me particular insight into what nurses were expected to learn about infant feeding and mother-infant care more generally. When writing about their infant feeding experiences, mothers during these years often cited the nurse as a central figure in their stories – often negatively, but increasingly more positively as hospital policies began shifting to allow mothers, babies, fathers and other family members to be together before, during and after delivery. By learning more about the knowledge- and experience-base of nurses and how these changed over time, I plan to begin teasing apart interactions between nurses, new mothers, and new families more thoroughly gaining insight into the processes by which women arrived at a breast- or bottle-feeding decision. I’ll further explore what these events meant to mothers. As a PhD student in the University of Pennsylvania’s History and Sociology of Science Department, I plan to continue taking advantage of the fantastic resources available through the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing over the remainder of my studies here at Penn.

**Dr. Cynthia Connolly**
The Karen Buhler-Wilkerson Fellowship has provided me with critical, early stage, funding for my new research on the history of children and pharmaceuticals in the United States. This interdisciplinary study provides a historical overview and critique of children and pharmaceuticals (therapeutic medicinal chemistry) in the United States from post World War II until the present day. The use of pharmaceutical agents in the pediatric population has rapidly escalated during the past few years. New medications have produced important health benefits, including better disease management and an enhanced quality of life for children. But their use in many conditions, such as Ritalin for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, growth hormone therapy for children with idiopathic short stature, antibiotics for cases of uncomplicated otitis media, and anti-hypertensive therapy in children labeled “prehypertensive” remains controversial, raising issues of cost, benefit, risk, and alternatives.

This research provides an interpretative perspective that policy makers currently lack. In my study I will explore four specific questions: (1) What beliefs about children and their
place in American society have traditionally informed policy debates surrounding pharmaceuticals and the pediatric population? (2) How have stakeholders, such as policymakers, industry, third-party-payers, health care professionals, and consumers (parents and in some instances, children themselves) mustered their political forces to both benefit and respond to societal debates concerning pediatric pharmaceutical use, testing, measures of efficacy, advertising, consent, and regulation? (3) How have notions of what constitutes children’s “best interests” shifted over time and how have these social, economic, and political changes shaped health policy as it pertains to children and pharmaceuticals? (4) What is the political, legislative and regulatory history of pediatric pharmaceuticals in American history? How were these policy choices framed and what processes fostered or inhibited change? What were the unintended consequences of these reforms, and what alternative directions might have produced different outcomes?


**Israeli Scholar Dr. Nira Bartal Visits Bates Center**

In February 2009, one of the Bates Center’s familiar scholars, Dr. Nira Bartal, visited the Center to carry out additional research. Dr. Bartal is Coordinator of the *Nursing History Project* of the Hadassah Nursing Department of the Hadassah Medical Organization and Lecturer at the Henrietta Szold Hadassah and Hebrew University School of Nursing in Jerusalem. Dr. Bartal would like to share her experiences of this visit with *Chronicle* readers:

“The Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing constitutes, for me, a model of ideas and activities in the field of the history of nursing that I am trying to implement in Jerusalem. Since 1995 I have been grateful to Dr. Joan Lynaugh and the faculty of the Center who, for nearly an entire year in 1995, gave me their knowledge, time and energy. The purpose of my 1995 visit, conducted then as part of my doctoral studies, was to acquaint myself with the field of American nursing as it influenced the development of nursing in Israel. Since then my relationship with the Center has continued and in February 2009 I visited the Center once again.

In its new site, the Center is designed in an aesthetic, graceful, and contemporary manner. Upon entering I was greeted with Betsy Weiss’s kind face. The glass-enclosed reading room, which permits a quiet research visit, was very inviting.

This time, as always, everyone was kind and enabled me to study. Joan Lynaugh, Julie Fairman, Jean C. Whelan and Gail E. Farr updated me on the status of research and the activities of the Center. I was generously provided with syllabi and texts of selected essays. I participated in Dr. Patricia D’Antonio’s class, which was at the time discussing the issue of leadership. I was invited to discuss Henrietta Szold, an American-born leader who influenced nursing in Israel. I also attended Dr. Barbra Mann Wall’s class at which Dr. Cynthia Connolly was a guest lecturer and was especially intrigued by her presentation. The quantity and quality of required reading and the student’s participation in both courses were impressive. I was also able to spend time with the Center’s visiting scholar Jing Li (Lisa) who taught me about nursing in China.

During my visit I attended the Center’s bi-monthly seminar series at which Dr. Julie Fairman discussed her work on racism and nursing, a very interesting and intellectual topic. Altogether my visit was highly successful.”

The Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing is pleased to offer a Faculty Research Award and the Brunner and Fisher Fellowships to support research in the history of nursing.

The Karen Buhler-Wilkerson Faculty Research Fellowship provides $1,200 of support to selected scholars based on evidence of preparation and/or productivity in historical research and/or teaching related to nursing. Scholars are expected to present the findings of their work at the Center’s seminar series. The Alice Fisher Society Fellowship and the Lillian Sholtis Brunner Fellowship for Historical Research in Nursing both offer $2,500 to support two weeks in residence at the Center and on-going collaboration with nurse historians associated with the Center. The Fisher Fellowship is open to those with masters and doctoral level preparation. Candidates with doctoral preparation will be preferred for the Brunner Fellowship although consideration will be given to those with pre-doctoral preparation.

More about the Fellowships can be found on the Center Website at: [http://www.nursing.upenn.edu/history/Pages/FellowshipsandAwards.aspx](http://www.nursing.upenn.edu/history/Pages/FellowshipsandAwards.aspx)
New Assistant Center Director Appointed

In July 2009, Center Director Julie Fairman announced the appointment of Dr. Jean C. Whelan to the position of Assistant Center Director. In this new position, Dr. Whelan will direct and carry out several new projects including two digitization projects, one to digitize the photo collection of the Philadelphia General Hospital School of Nursing’s Alumnae Association and the second to digitize the Mary Clymer manuscript (see following story). Dr. Whelan will also direct the compilation of the Center’s upcoming decade report. Dr. Whelan will continue to edit *The Chronicle*, direct the popular Bates Center Bi-monthly Seminar Series, and coordinate the Bates Center’s Website.

Dr. Whelan received her BSN from the Hunter College-Bellevue School of Nursing, her MA from New York University and her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. She completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research at the School of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania, in collaboration with the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing and under the mentorship of Drs. Karen Buhler-Wilkerson and Linda Aiken. Dr. Whelan’s research centers on the historical development of the U.S. nursing workforce, the issues which shaped nursing’s development as a professional occupation, and the policy implications involved in maintaining adequate nurse services. In addition to her new responsibilities as Assistant Center Director, Dr. Whelan continues her work on two NIH-funded grants. The first is an examination of the development of the nurse workforce and the establishment of conventions of nurse’s work in the first half of the 20th century. The second project, in which she is a co-investigator with Dr. Karen Buhler-Wilkerson, involves the creation of a website, entitled “Nursing, History and Healthcare,” which is intended to become a major electronic source of critical historical information and analysis of the nursing profession and its relationship to health care policy. Congratulations, Jean, on your new position.

Bates Center Launches Digitization Projects

By Gail Farr, MA, CA

Success breeds success, as the saying goes—and surely this is true of developments under way at the Bates Center which are transforming our capabilities to share collection resources. First has been the continued growth of our holdings. The Bates Center has always had a successful collecting program, but we continue to be surprised by the wealth of nursing history source material which is offered to us for preservation and research use. Second, we have continued to benefit from the willingness of individuals, organizations, and agencies to support the work of the Center and particularly specific programs to promote awareness and use of recent acquisitions. Third, as we have moved into the 21st century, our nursing history community has experienced the profound impact of the Internet and the World Wide Web in transforming our notions of what is possible and what is necessary for repositories such as ours in order to remain in touch and in step with the larger world of research and information technology.

The Center is therefore pleased to announce plans for two projects which are designed to increase the accessibility and visibility of our holdings. Both projects focus on discrete collections, and both promise to contribute significantly to nursing and health care history. Moreover, both projects will serve as prototypes for similar efforts which we hope to undertake in years to come. As every institution which has embarked on a digitization program knows, the first steps seem small and the “how-do-we” questions are many. But we are genuinely thrilled by the progress we are making to present more of our collection materials online.

The first project will be carried out in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania Libraries’ Schoenberg Center for Electronic Text and Image or SCETI. (For further information about SCETI, please see the program website, http://sceti.library.upenn.edu/) This project entails the digitization of the extensive photo collection of the Philadelphia General Hospital Nurse Pouring Meds, c. 1900 from the Alumni Association of Philadelphia General Hospital Training School for Nurses Collection at the Bates Center.
General Hospital (PGH) School of Nursing which was gathered over the years by the Alumni Association of the Training School for Nurses of PGH (as the PGH School of Nursing was originally known) and donated to the Bates Center in 1985. The PGH School of Nursing was one of the largest and most prestigious hospital-based schools of nursing operating in the United States in the last century. Founded in 1885 as the first school of nursing in Philadelphia established on the ideas of Florence Nightingale, the Philadelphia General Hospital School of Nursing enjoyed a long and excellent reputation as one of the nation’s major teaching centers for nurses.

In its efforts to preserve the school’s history, the PGH Alumni Association gathered a wide array of images of nursing and nurse education at the hospital and of the sprawling hospital complex which was located on property adjoining the University of Pennsylvania. The collection contains approximately 1,500 photos depicting life in the school and on the wards and campus of PGH from 1880 to the 1970s, when it closed. The breadth, depth, and scope of this collection, illuminating the daily life and work of not only nurses but many others in the hospital community, make it a rich source on the history of nursing and health care.

To permit wider access to this collection, our project team is developing a website featuring images from the collection with accompanying explanatory narrative. The digitization project involves cataloging the photos for access and retrieval on the Internet and creating captions and narrative content. The project will begin with an initial phase in which 150 selected images from the collection will be digitized. Once completed, the website will be linked to the Center’s website for easy access by Bates Center website visitors. A future goal is to digitize all 1,500 images found in the collection. Digitization of the collection will greatly enhance the accessibility of the images to scholars of health care and nursing history and to audiences throughout the world.

This project has built upon previous collection processing conducted by Center staff and by Stephanie A. Stachniwicz, MSN, RN., the last director of the PGH School of Nursing before its 1977 close and co-author of The Double Frill: The History of the Philadelphia General Hospital School of Nursing (1978). Ms. Stachniwicz’s extensive research on the school and her arrangement and identification of images in the PGH photographic collection as a long-time volunteer at the Bates Center, aided by several former PGH nursing colleagues, have provided us with a strong foundation for interpreting this history on the Web.

The Center is also grateful to the Alumni Association of the Philadelphia General Hospital School of Nurses for its generous financial support of this project. Plans to digitize the PGH collection began with a 2004 grant from the Association which enabled Center staff to survey our holdings on PGH and formulate an overall strategy for promoting access to this material. Additionally, staff took the opportunity to participate in a series of training workshops on developing and managing digitization projects offered through PALINET, a regional membership organization for libraries and information professionals. Center personnel have learned a great deal from in-service training and guidance offered by Mark Lloyd and his staff at the University of Pennsylvania Archives whose collection photo gallery has served as a model to aspire to (it may be visited at http://www.archives.upenn.edu/img/entry.html). Finally, thanks to the PGH seed money, we have been able to continue our preparations over the past year so that we are just about ready to go into production.

The second new digitization project focuses on the manuscript written by Mary Clymer while she was training to be a nurse at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, Philadelphia. Clymer, an 1889 graduate of the HUP School of Nursing, is believed to have been the nurse portrayed in Thomas Eakins’s painting, The Agnew Clinic. In the painting, which was completed in 1889, and presented to the University of Pennsylvania Medical School that same year, Clymer is standing at the foot of the patient, opposite Dr. Agnew, as a group of physicians perform a surgical procedure on a patient before an audience of medical students. (See calendar, page 16 for information regarding Homecoming Lecture on The Agnew Clinic.)

Donated by the Nurses’ Alumni Association of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in 2002, Clymer’s diary is one of the Center’s major holdings. It consists of notes documenting the variety of experiences that were part of Clymer’s educational program at the School, which included rotations in the hospital wards where she performed assigned duties under supervision of nursing school faculty and nursing staff employed by the hospital as well as attendance at formal lectures taught by the medical school faculty. The class notes were based on lectures given to the students detailing patient care, and the ward notes provide a marvelous portrait of hospital nursing care and nurse training during this era. The Clymer manuscript first came to general attention when it was used by Mary Virginia Stephenson, R.N., in writing The First Fifty Years of the Training School for Nurses of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1940). However, because of the detailed character of the manuscript and Clymer’s methodical record-keeping, Center staff have been anxious for an opportunity to enable people to read the manuscript in its entirety.

That opportunity was made possible by a grant from Bates Center Advisory Board Chair Ellen D. Baer and her husband Henry P. Baer who pledged a generous contribution to establish the Baer Family Photo Archiving Project at the Center in 2005. An important first step in many archival digitization programs is the repair and restoration of the original material which in this case was worn and vulnerable to further deterioration. The Baer funds have been used to support the conservation of the Clymer manuscript at the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, Philadelphia, and the subsequent scanning which will be done to make the manuscript available on the Internet. Similarly, the Baer grant has been used to digitize a number of other uniquely valuable collection items which deserve widespread attention and use. During this past summer, two student employees, Marisa Schoen and Melissa Gunderson, painstakingly transcribed the diary. Transcription enables readers to quickly scan a document for pertinent information if they choose, though online viewers will have the choice of perusing either the text in handwritten or printed formats or comparing the two versions.

We look forward to updating our readers as these two projects progress.
As the academic year begins, the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing looks forward to its Fall 2009 Bi-monthly Seminar Series. The Bates Center Seminar Series provides a venue for cross-disciplinary scholars to present topics of interest to the history of nursing and health care community. Researchers from the across the University as well as from other institutions present their work and engage in thoughtful discussions.

This fall’s series includes an outstanding array of scholars. The series kicks off on October 7 with a presentation by 2008 Fisher Scholar Dr. Susanne Malchau Dietz, Associate Professor at the Institute of Public Health and Department of Nursing Science of the University of Aarhus, Denmark. Dr. Dietz’s presentation is entitled “International Transfer of Nursing Knowledge: Professor Loretta Heidgerken’s ‘Unit Learning’ Model.” Other speakers in the Fall series include Glicerio Moura from Pace University, Dr. James Colgrove of the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, Dr. Sue Hawkins of the Centre for Local History Studies, Kingston University, UK, the 2009 Bates Center Fisher Fellow Dr. Christine Hallet of the University of Manchester and our own Dr. Barbra Mann Wall.

The Spring 2010 seminar series is slated to be equally as impressive as the fall series.

Over the years, the seminar series has become widely known across the University, enabling the Bates Center to both publicize the critical historical scholarship carried out at the Center as well as offer an environment in which scholars engaged in related research can share their work. The seminar series is open to all and welcomes scholars and other interested individuals from the Philadelphia area—or visiting from elsewhere—to attend. For those interested in further information on the seminar series and a complete listing of speakers and topics, please contact Betsy Weiss at the Bates Center at ehweiss@nursing.upenn.edu (phone 215-898-4502) or visit the Center’s website at www.nursing.upenn.edu/history/Pages/default.aspx

This summer the Center has been pleased to welcome to the staff two outstanding work study students, Melissa Gunderson and Marisa Schoen. Several of the projects Melissa and Marisa worked on over the summer included the relocation of Center collections to the new archival storage area, development of the Center’s new website, and the transcription of the Mary Clymer manuscript dealing with nurse training in the 1880s. Both Melissa and Marisa are well qualified students, each coming from diverse backgrounds.

Melissa Gunderson is a rising senior from West Fargo, ND, majoring in Hispanic Studies and Anthropology with a Human Biology concentration. She has a strong interest in reproductive ecology and women’s health and conducted anthropological fieldwork in a Mayan community in Guatemala relating to maternal and infant mortality and morbidity. Melissa also works in the Emergency Department of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia where she enrolls patients in clinical research studies. She will be spending the Fall 2009 semester studying in Barcelona before returning for her last term at Penn. Melissa has greatly enjoyed her time at the Bates Center working on projects such as transcribing the Mary Clymer manuscript with Marisa Schoen as well as interacting with the Center’s excellent staff.

Born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii, Marisa Schoen came to Penn excited to see snow for the first time and be able to attend one of the oldest and most prestigious schools in the nation. Marisa is entering her junior year in the College of Arts and Sciences and is majoring in Biological Basis of Behavior. She is also a member on Penn’s Varsity Women’s Soccer team and involved in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program. In addition to working at the Bates Nursing History Center, she holds another job position at the Legal Studies and Business Ethics Department in Huntsman Hall and has also had the opportunity to spend a couple days a week shadowing physicians at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Her time in the Bates History Center and the hospital has helped fuel her desire and interest in pursuing a career in the medical field following graduation.

The Center wishes Melissa and Marisa all the best in their future studies and careers.
In January 2008, twelve leaders of nursing history centers from all over the world wrote to Hiroko Minami, President of the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and Judith Oulton, ICN Executive Director, asking for their support to include nursing history as a section within the ICN conference. They agreed, and the ICN Nursing History Section came to fruition on June 30, 2009. Dr. Barbra Mann Wall, Associate Director of the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, and Dr. Sioban Nelson, Dean and Professor, Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto, led a standing-room only audience at the 24th Quadrennial Congress held in Durban, South Africa. Representatives from the African countries of Ethiopia, the Mauritius Islands, Togo, Mali, Tanzania, and Uganda presented their histories to the group. Then, in small groups, the other participants shared information about their own countries’ nursing history. This included groups from the Scandinavian countries, Romania, Iran, Ireland, the United Kingdom, Lebanon, Newfoundland, Finland, Barbados, South Africa, Australia, Turkey, Portugal, Jamaica, and Turkey, among others. Participants were historians, presidents of their national nursing associations and boards of nursing, staff nurses, and leaders in universities.

The meeting concluded with expressions of wide support for future meetings of nurse historians through the ICN. Plans will include developing collaboration on joint history projects, grants, and publications. Indeed, historians of nursing in various research centers can participate in the international exchange of ideas, experience, and expertise for the nursing profession. The organizing group will take the next step which is to write to the new ICN Executive Director, David Benton, to obtain his support for nursing history as a network within the ICN. Such a network would be a significant step forward in fostering the development of nursing history scholars in many parts of the world, and would enhance our understanding of nursing as a profession of multiple histories. Most important, the network would enable the historical narrative of the profession, which is critical to professional identity, to continue to evolve in tune with the realities of the millions of nurses throughout the world.

Chronicle readers can look for more updates on this significant development in future issues.

(continued next page)
Iris Machlan Gross
1925 – 2009

Iris Gross, nurse and educator for 51 years at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP), died July 6, 2009 after a brief illness secondary to a fall. She was 83 years old. Iris Gross graduated from the HUP School of Nursing in 1946. She subsequently earned her bachelor’s degree in education in 1949 and her master’s degree in 1954, both from the University of Pennsylvania.

During her career, Iris Gross made many contributions to the HUP School of Nursing. She served as the school’s Director from 1960 until its closing in 1978, during which she demonstrated her passion for the advancement of nursing education. Iris Gross was instrumental in integrating innovative new programs into the curriculum as she believed that nursing education should be well rounded. After the closing of the HUP School of Nursing, an event which deeply saddened her, Mrs. Gross was recruited by HUP to implement training courses for the hospital employees and tuition-assistance programs. She continued her involvement by being an active member of the HUP Alumni Association. Betty Irwin, a fellow HUP graduate who worked with Iris in the Association, remembers her as a “dedicated leader.”

Many unique milestones and accomplishments marked Iris Gross’ education and career. She began her nursing career as a Cadet Nurse during World War II. As a nursing student she was interviewed for the historical study on sexuality, the Kinsey Report. She received the Letitia White Award for the highest general average upon her graduation in 1946. As a HUP nurse, she administered the very first penicillin to be given at the hospital. She was among the committee members who proposed the early plans for the construction of the TRINEB building, now named the Claire M. Fagin Hall. During her illustrious career she was a member of University Women, University Women Faculty Club and the Alpha Omega Omicron Pi Sorority. She served twice as President of Southeastern Pennsylvania League of Nursing.

Mrs. Gross received many awards including the Dora Mathis Award of the Southwestern League for Nursing in 1971, the Commendation Merit Award from the National American Cancer Society in 1974, and the distinguished Service Award from the Philadelphia Division of the American Cancer Society. She was honored by the HUP Alumni Association with the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1976.

Mrs. Gross was married to her beloved husband Stanley and is survived by him, their sons, and many other relations, including her sister Patricia Machlan Graef (HUP ‘52).
the American Association for the History of Nursing (AAHN) and The European Nursing History Group (ENHG) are pleased to announce their international conference in the History of Nursing and Midwifery. Join us in September 2010 for this landmark event and present your work to an interdisciplinary and international audience. (see call for abstracts http://www.aahn.org/abstract.html). To be held in International Year of the Nurse, and timed to run alongside commemorative events to mark the centenary of the death of Florence Nightingale, the conference aims to showcase innovative and scholarly work by nurse-historians and academics from allied disciplines. The conference will appeal to historians of nursing and medicine, women’s history, critical theorists and intellectual history. The conference is run jointly by the American Association for the History of Nursing and The European Nursing History Group, which comprises four organizations: FHSCS Kingston University & St. Georges University of London; The UK Centre for the History of Nursing and Midwifery; The Irish Center for Nursing and Midwifery History; and The History of Nursing Society of the Royal College of Nursing, UK. The conference scientific program will take place over three days, from September 14–16, 2010. Keynote speaker is Dr Afaf Meleis, Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing; and guest speaker is Mark Bostridge, author of *Florence Nightingale: The Woman and Her Legend*.

**Centenary Event**

Conference attendees will have an opportunity to sightsee some major London attractions on Monday 13th September before attending a special service at St. Paul’s Cathedral to mark the centenary of the death of Florence Nightingale.

**Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing Fall Seminars 2009**

October 7
Susanne Malchau Dietz, PhD
Associate Professor, Institute of Public Health and Department of Nursing Science; University of Aarhus, Denmark
“International Transfer of Nursing Knowledge: Professor Loretta Heidgerkens “Unit Learning” Model”

October 21
Barbra Mann Wall, PhD, RN
Associate Professor, University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing
“The Hospital Will Stand: The Alaska Earthquake of 1964”

October 28
Glicero Moura, BSN, CWCN
Graduate Student, Lienhard School of Nursing, Pace University
“Hope Arrives From the North: The Oral History of 12 Brazilian Student Nurses Who Interned on the American Hospital Ship “Hope” in the Northeast of Brazil in 1972”

November 11
James Colgrove, PhD, MPH
Associate Professor, Center for the History and Ethics of Public Health Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health
“The Coercive Hand, the Beneficent Hand: What the History of Compulsory Vaccination Can Tell Us About HPV Vaccine Mandates”

November 18
Susan E. Hawkins, PhD,
Project Manager: Historic Hospital Admission Records Project
Centre for Local History Studies, Kingston University

December 2
Christine Hallett, PhD
Senior Lecturer and Director of the UK Centre for the History of Nursing and Midwifery, The School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work University of Manchester, Manchester, England
“Death and the Maiden: Purity and Self-sacrifice in the Image of the First World War Nurse”

All Seminars take place at 12:15 PM in the 2U Conference Room, Room 2019, Claire Fagin Hall
For further information—e-mail Betsy Weiss at ehweiss@nursing.upenn.edu or call 215-898-4502

**The Chronicle**

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Editor: Jean C. Whelan PhD, RN
Copy Editor: Gail E. Farr, MA CA
Design: Betsy Weiss
Calendar

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
HOMECOMING LECTURE “The Agnew Clinic Through the Eyes of a Nurse.” November 6, 2009, 2:30-4:00 pm. Amanda Mahoney is presenting her work on Mary Clymer, believed to be the nurse in the famous Eakins Painting, The Agnew Clinic. Amanda L. Mahoney, BSN is an oncology nurse with a background in the History of Art. She is currently a doctoral student in the University of Pennsylvania program. The Agnew Clinic was created in 1889 by Philadelphia painter Thomas Eakins on commission from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine class of 1889. The large canvas, created in honor of Dr. D. Hayes Agnew, a noted surgeon, is one of Eakins’ most famous works. The nurse featured as part of the surgical team in the painting, Mary V. Clymer, was an 1889 graduate of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. Her class notes and clinical journals have served an important role in the interpretation of The Agnew Clinic as a work of art and an image of its time. This lecture will discuss this well-known painting and its place in the history of the University of Pennsylvania. The lecture is free. Advance registration is preferred. See www.nursing.upenn.edu/alumni and click on Events and Programs for information and registration.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE (AAHM) 83RD ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday evening April 29, 2010 through Sunday May 2, 2010 at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. From Bruce Frye, the AAHM president: “The annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine is a fun event where opportunities to hear and discuss scholarly papers on a broad range of subjects are blended with social activities that encourage networking. Given the current interest in health care reform, participants should enjoy seeing the Mayo Clinic and appreciating why and how it has attracted more than 7 million patients and so much public attention since its creation more than a century ago. For more information, please contact Renee Ziemer, coordinator of the AAHM Local Arrangements Committee and the Mayo Historical Unit at ziemer.renee@mayo.edu.” From the AAHM Website http://www.histmed.org.

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND SCIENCE
March 5-6, 2010. University of Louisville School of Medicine and the Innominata Society, Louisville KT. This conference is aimed at providing a means for exchange and sharing of research, ideas, and interest related to the history of medicine, science, and technology. http://www.sahms.net/index.html

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