

2006-05-01

## SoutteReview, Issue 26

Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/soutterreview>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

### Repository Citation

Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School. (2006). SoutteReview, Issue 26. SoutteReview. <https://doi.org/10.13028/m4x9-2935>. Retrieved from <https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/soutterreview/27>

Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 4.0 License](#). This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMMS. It has been accepted for inclusion in SoutteReview by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMMS. For more information, please contact [Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu](mailto:Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu).



A Legacy of Service and Learning

# SoutterReview

Newsletter of The Lamar Soutter Library • University of Massachusetts Medical School • Issue 26

## Meet Dr. Ellen S. More, Medical History Archivist

Ellen S. More is the Lamar Soutter Library's first head of the Office of Medical History and Archives. This is a new position within the library funded by the medical school administration designed to record and preserve the history of the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Her interest in the history of the American medical profession—particularly the role of women in the profession, and the history of empathy in the doctor-patient relationship—was an evolutionary departure from her original historical expertise.



Dr. More received her PhD in seventeenth-century English history from the University of Rochester in 1980. While she was employed by the History department, she was asked to teach a course on the History of the American Medical Profession, for the broadening of Pre-med students' understanding of the humanities.

She recalls, "As I became more involved in this course, many students asked me about the role of women in the medical profession. Using the archives of the Edward G. Miner Medical Library, I was able to use the papers of women physicians of Rochester, New York from the 1870s onward." The wealth of information that Dr. More garnered from the archives helped her to change her focus of interest in history, and it led to her writing the book, *Restoring the Balance: Women Physicians and the Profession of Medicine, 1850-1995* (Harvard University Press: 1999).

In this book, Dr. More focuses on the values and choices that women physicians made, from the nineteenth century forward, that helped to mold both their character and careers. She states, "I found metaphors involving the concept of balance running through their writings." These metaphors concern the balance of males to females in the health profession; the balance in a layperson's life to allow sufficient time for personal healthcare; the balance in a physician's life in his

commitment to individual patients as opposed to the community; and the balance a physician seeks between professional obligations and the demands of his or her personal life.

The book's first chapter profiles Sarah Adamson Dolley, the third woman in the United States to graduate from a medical school. Dr. More proceeds to tell the story of women physicians from the nineteenth century to the last decade of the twentieth.

Two noteworthy collaborative ventures of Dr. More's have involved work on a book and an exhibit. With

Maureen Milligan, she served as co-editor of the book *The Empathic Practitioner: Empathy, Gender and Practice* (Rutgers University Press). Dr. More wrote the first section, entitled "Empathy' Enters the Medical Profession." Dr. More was co-curator of the National Medical Library exhibit *Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians*.

After its initial run from 2003-2005, this was transformed into a traveling exhibit, and is on display at the Lamar Soutter Library from May 5 to June 16, 2006. An outgrowth of this is a scholarly symposium, entitled *Health Politics, Gender, Performance and Power: American Women Physicians Confront the Masculine Culture of Medicine*. Dr. More notes that a book is currently being developed from the symposium papers.

As for her immediate goals for this new position, Dr. More wants to "generate interest and a larger presence for the history of medicine generally and of the role of the University of Massachusetts Medical School, in particular. There are two related strategies that I am hoping to carry out to accomplish this. I want to re-ignite appreciation of the value of preservation of historical records by the members of the UMass community. To do that, I hope to meet with the different departments and to ultimately host History of Medicine events.

### In this issue

Meet Dr. Ellen S. More	p. 1
Evidence-Based Practice Project	p. 2
New Technologies at LSL	p. 2
A Dose of Reading	p. 3
Medical Library Courses	p. 4

### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday  
7:30 am - 11:00 pm

Friday 7:30 am - 9:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am - 9:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am - 11:00 pm

Hours are subject to change due to exams, holidays, and weather conditions. Please call 508-856-2511 for current library hours.

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Circulation  
508-856-6099

Reference Desk  
508-856-6857

Document Delivery  
508-856-2469

Interlibrary Borrowing  
508 856-2080

Library Administration  
508-856-2205

Government Documents  
508-856-2473

Journal Information  
508-856-2388

Acquisitions  
508-856-1041

continued on page 3

## Evidence-Based Practice Project Culminated

Researchers at the Lamar Soutter Library have completed the *Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health Project*, which addressed the need for access to quality evidence-based public health information. Project team members consisted of Dr. Elaine R. Martin, Principal Investigator; E. Hatheway Simpson, Project Coordinator; and Project Consultants Dr. Roger Luckmann; Dr. Nancy La Pelle; and Dr. Sharon Telleen.

The need for improved access to quality public health information has been recognized by public health practitioners, researchers, policy makers, and information specialists. Evidence-based medicine (EBM) for clinical medicine involves using the best evidence for the treatment and diagnosis of disease in individual patients. Evidence-based public health (EBPH) involves using the best evidence to develop public health policies, health promotion programs, and interventions for public health practice.

In the last decade numerous clinical EBM resources have been developed to assist clinical practitioners find the best evidence for the medical care of individual patients, but few resources are available for population-based public health practice. To explore and address this gap, the project team examined and classified the features of existing clinical EBM models, assessed their potential for improving access to EBPH information, and identified any existing resources for evidence-based public health decision-making.

The project team sought to develop a potential model that could effectively address the unique needs of public health professionals. A major challenge to developing an information resource targeted to provide evidence-based information to the public health workforce is the great breadth of the public health discipline. The public health workforce may be more diverse than any other group of health professionals,

and includes practitioners trained in dozens of disciplines—ranging from environmental health to veterinary medicine, from sanitary engineering to epidemiology. Public health activities include health monitoring and surveillance, prevention of chronic and communicable diseases, health promotion, disaster preparedness, and the development of public health laws and policies.

In an effort to develop a potential EBPH model that could effectively address the unique needs of public health professionals, the research team set out to outline and define the field of public health. They examined sources that represented prominent public health associations, government health agencies, national health objectives, essential public health services, public health occupations, public health literature, and library indexes to identify the knowledge domains of public health. Twenty major knowledge domains and 155 subdomains of public health were identified that represent multiple subjects of knowledge within the broad field of public health. The project team also identified an extensive list of public health journals and bibliographic databases, including those available for free online access.

The researchers sought to gain a better understanding of the information needs of the public health workforce and undertook a qualitative study to investigate how public health practitioners access information needed for their work, what barriers they face, and what improvements are needed to develop an information systems model for access to EBPH information. The project team conducted a qualitative study to determine the information needs of public health professionals working in the areas of communicable disease control and community health promotion in a state health department.

They found that the public health professionals interviewed have a wide variety of needs and use different informa-

tion sources, depending on the nature of their work. The types of information they used for public health practice ranged from early reports of disease outbreaks (needed by those dealing with emerging diseases), to published research reports, systematic reviews, and evidence-based guidelines needed by those working on the prevention and control of well-known diseases and health threats. Information resources used by the participants included news resources, listservs, alert services, websites, journal articles, conference proceedings, and email.

The study revealed that public health practitioners face several barriers and limitations to accessing quality information for public health practice. These include unfiltered and often duplicative information from listservs, obtaining irrelevant returns when searching for information on websites and online databases, and having limited access to gray literature, systematic reviews, and full-text journal articles. To address these and other concerns raised by the study, the research team developed a hypothetical model for the delivery and organization of credible and relevant public health information.

An outcome of the project that is particularly beneficial to the public health workforce is the project's website, <http://library.umassmed.edu/ebpph>, which provides free online access to public health journals, databases, and EBPH resources identified by the research team. The compiled EBPH resources are organized by information type and include evidence-based guidelines, systematic reviews, pre-formulated literature searches, and best practices. The EBPH online resources will continue to be updated with funding provided by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, New England Region and the Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA.

—HS

## WebCT & PDAs - New Technologies at LSL

In 2005, UMass Medical School embraced two new technologies designed to enhance the learning experience of its students. The first, WebCT, is a learning management tool that allows instructors to make portions of their courses—as well as discussions and chats—available online. The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) was the first school to implement WebCT; the entire UMass campus is expected to be an active participant by this fall.

Throughout the clinical healthcare field, the PDA (Personal Digital Assistant) has become a valuable tool that practitioners use to carry up-to-date drug and diagnostic information

with them. Beginning in the summer of 2005, all third-year School of Medicine (SOM) students have been required to use a PDA device as part of their clinical training.

With the first year of the PDA requirement for third-year students almost complete, we are reviewing the success of the program over the last year and are planning training and implementation for incoming third-year students. In addition to training and general PDA support, we have set up a "synching station" in the Library that students and faculty can use to quickly download schedules, patient log information, and updates to drug and diagnostic data resources.

As the Lamar Soutter Library seeks to continually be at the forefront of emerging health information technologies, we readily embraced these two new tools. Members of the Library staff were among the first at the School to be fully qualified as WebCT designers.

Since then, we have trained first-year GSBS students and first- and second-year SOM students to use WebCT with their studies. We have also reached out to faculty that have needed assistance in designing instructional resources online. In addition, a page has been made available on the Library's web page that leads students and other PDA users to links for required and other free resources, as well as other helpful PDA information.

—LL

## A Dose of Reading—Beyond Dr. Quinn: Memoirs of Women Physicians

Some believe that the protagonist of the tv series *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman* was modeled after the life and pioneering career of Susan Anderson (1870-1970) who for many years practiced medicine in the region of Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek, Colorado. (For more on her, see *Doc Susie: The True Story of a Country Physician in the Colorado Rockies* (1991), Call Number: WZ 100 A545C 1991 by Virginia Cornell.)

The books listed below highlight the role of women physicians in medicine and are featured in conjunction with the exhibition of "Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians," on display in the Lamar Soutter Library May 5 – June 15. These and other titles have been added to the new, "Women in Medicine Collection" which has been established as a special collection in the Library by the UMass Medical School Women Faculty Committee and the LSL.

Alsop, Gulielma Fell (1881-1978). *Deer Creek: The Story of a Golden Childhood* (1947). Call Number: W 21 A462d 1947 A medical missionary in China in the early twentieth century, Alsop also founded the medical department of Barnard College. Here she tells of her earliest years.

Benetar, Judith (pseud.) (1941-). *Admissions: Notes from a Woman Psychiatrist* (1974). Call Number: WM 100 B465a 1974 Benetar tells of her professional affiliations with a New York City hospital, where she has held the positions of chief resident and supervising psychiatrist.

Berle, Beatrice Bishop (1902-1993). *A Life in Two Worlds: The Autobiography of Beatrice Bishop Berle* (1983). Call Number: W 21 B514I 1983 A native of Lenox, MA, Berle began practicing medicine after the birth of her third child, earning her M.D. from NYU. She championed neighborhood family clinics and was an outspoken advocate for preventive medicine.

Doyle, Helen MacKnight (1873-1957). *Doctor Nellie: The Autobiography of Helen MacKnight Doyle* (1983). Call Number: WZ 100 D754 1934a Originally titled *A Child Went Forth* (1934), this reminiscence traces the youth and career of this country doctor, who practiced in the High Sierra during the early years of the twentieth century.

Harrison, Michelle (1942-). *A Woman in Residence: A Physician's Account of Her Training in Obstetrics and Gynecology* (1982). Call Number: WZ 100 H321 1982a On her residency rounds, Harrison spoke daily comments into a tape recorder that she carried with her. From this oral record evolved this book, an indictment against various status quo elements of the culture of medicine.

Han, Suyin (1917-). *The Crippled Tree* (1965); Call Number: W 21 H233c 1965 *A Mortal Flower: China* (1996); Call Number: W 21 H233m 1972 and *Birdless Summer: China* (1968). Call Number: W 18 H233b 1968 She was a medical practitioner and writer, who novelized many of her life's experiences in this trilogy of memoirs. Han is best remembered as the author of the 1952 novel *A Many Splendored Thing*, Call Number: W 21 H233m 1952 which was adapted into the 1955 film *Love Is a Many-Splendored Thing*, which won three Oscars.

Hardy, Harriet L. (1905-1993). *Challenging Man-Made Disease: The Memoirs of Harriet Hardy, M.D.* (1983). Call Number: WZ 100 H269c 1983 A native of Arlington, MA, Hardy identified the unregulated air within Sylvania and General Electric fluorescent lamp factories in Lynn and Salem, MA as the source of the respiratory disease berylliosis among women workers. She authored more than 100 scientific articles.

La Roe, Else K. *Woman Surgeon: The Autobiography of Else K. La Roe, M.D.* (1957). Call Number: WO 100 L328w 1957 Born in Heidelberg, Germany, Dr. La Roe recaptures her European childhood and describes subsequent experiences, including those involving her practice in Manhattan.

Morgan, Elizabeth (1947-). *The Making of a Woman Surgeon* (1980) Call Number: WZ 100 M8473m 1980 and *Solo Practice: A Woman Surgeon's Story* (1982). Call Number: WO 600 M848s 1982 These memoirs by Morgan, a plastic surgeon in private practice in Washington, D.C., detail her years of training and attempts to balance personal life issues with her professional career.

Parker, Beulah (1912-). *The Evolution of a Psychiatrist: Memoirs of a Woman Doctor* (1987). Call Number: WZ 100 P238e 1987 Parker's psychiatric practice was based in northern California; she also wrote three other books dealing with psychiatric issues and case histories, and has contributed to medical journals.

Rowland, Mary Canaga. *As Long as Life: The Memoirs of a Frontier Woman Doctor, Mary Canaga Rowland, 1873-1966* (1994). Call Number: WZ 100 R883 1994 Covering her years in Kansas, Oregon, and New York, this highly readable memoir tells of Rowland's years driving wagons across the continent, as she practiced her profession across the untamed heartland.

Salber, Eva J. (1916-1990). *The Mind Is Not the Heart: Recollections of a Woman Physician* (1989). Call Number: WZ 100 S1613 1989 Born in South Africa, Salber here writes of her experiences as a doctor and working mother in Boston and in North Carolina, as well as in her native land.

Wilburforce, Octavia. *Octavia Wilburforce: The Autobiography of a Pioneer Woman Doctor* (1989) Call Number: WZ 100 W665 1989 Born in Victorian England, Octavia overcame such obstacles as being cut out of her father's will, in order to pursue her professional health career. She treated WWI soldier casualties and later became head physician of a hospital in Brighton.

For further titles, see *Women Physicians of the World: Autobiographies of Medical Pioneers*, ed. by Leone McGreggor Hellstedt (1978). Call Number: WZ 150 W872 1978 Another resource: *In Her Own Words: Oral Histories of Women Physicians*, ed. by Regina Markell Morantz et. Al (1982). Call Number: WZ 150 I35 1982

—JL

---

### Interview with Dr. Ellen S. More from page 1

The second strategy is to enlarge the presence of History of Medicine in the UMass cultural offerings."

Dr. More is also establishing a working relationship with the Worcester District Medical Society to promote the use of the Lamar Soutter Library Rare Books holdings, which include a large number

of books belonging to the Society's Worcester Medical Library. Other plans include the establishment of an oral history project by the Library.

Dr. More, who also holds the title of Professor, Department of Psychiatry, will deliver a lecture at 6:15 pm on May 9, 2006: *Testing the Boundaries: Women*

*Physicians and Sex Education—The Case of Dr. Mary S. Calderone.* At this time, she also will sign copies of her book *Restoring the Balance.* *SoutteReview* will interview Dr. More in a future issue to share her perspectives on the methodology of historical inquiry.

—PJ

SoutteReview is a seasonal publication of The Lamar Soutter Library at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Comments: jeff.long@umassmed.edu

Co-Editors:

Jeffrey Long  
Barbara Ingrassia

Contributors:

Barbara Ingrassia  
Paul Julian  
Len Levin  
Jeffrey Long  
E. Hathaway Simpson

Design and Layout: Deerfield Press

World Wide Web:

<http://library.umassmed.edu>

Lamar Soutter Library  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School  
55 Lake Avenue North  
Worcester, MA 01655

Non Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Worcester, MA  
Permit No. 176

## LSL Staff Provide Instruction in Graduate Courses

In recognition of their leadership in the medical library profession, several Lamar Soutter Library staff have been chosen to teach and coordinate spring courses in medical/health sciences librarianship, under the auspices of two of New England's accredited graduate schools of library science.

The University of Rhode Island's graduate course *Health Sciences Librarianship* (LSC 537) has been taught here in Worcester at the LSL. Lead Instructor Elaine Martin, DA, has invited staff to participate as guest lecturers, within their respective specialty areas:

Donna Berryman:	Searching MedlinePlus®, PubMed®
James Comes:	Reference
Javier Crespo:	Regional Medical Library
Janet Dadoly:	Collection Development
Deb Dulmaine-Coonan:	Financial Management
Jane Fama:	Access Services—Circulation, Document Delivery/ILL
Nancy Harger:	Hospital Librarianship
Barbara Ingrassia:	Technical Services—Licensing, Open Access
Len Levin:	Hospital Librarianship
Lisa Palmer:	Cataloging
Mary Piorun:	Systems

In addition, Martin has taught *Medical Librarianship* (LS434) in Boston, for Simmons College's School of Library and Information Science.

Through these courses, Lamar Soutter Library professionals have trained more than 27 potential future medical librarians.

—BI

The Lamar Soutter Library invites you to experience

### CHANGING THE FACE OF MEDICINE: CELEBRATING AMERICA'S WOMEN PHYSICIANS

an exhibit that celebrates the lives and achievements of women in medicine since they first gained admission to American medical schools 150 years ago.

Join us for a variety of events: tours, speakers, a play, book signings, films, displays and more...

The Lamar Soutter Library at the University of Massachusetts Medical School is honored to be one of only three libraries in New England to host this interactive exhibit, based on a larger exhibit displayed at the National Library of Medicine from 2003-2005.

Free and open to the public during library hours from May 5 through June 15, 2006  
Complete exhibit and event details at <http://library.umassmed.edu/changingthefaceofmedicine/>

"Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians" was developed by the Exhibition Program of the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine in collaboration with the American Library Association Public Programs Office.

The traveling exhibition has been made possible by the National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health Office of Research on Women's Health.  
The American Medical Women's Association provided additional support.