Our International Initiative

As we enter the adolescence of our Center’s development, one of our goals is to expand our international connections with other scholars of nursing history and to preserve and study nursing history throughout the world.

We are well on our way to meeting this goal, as is evident in this issue of Windows in Time. In the following pages, you will be introduced to Dr. La-iad JamJan, who came from Bangkok, Thailand, this past summer to study historical research methods and historiography with Barbara Brodie. You will also note that the Center directors and PhD students are presenting their work both nationally and internationally.

The coming year will provide exciting opportunities for the Centers directors and graduate students to make new relationships with scholars in countries outside the United States. In March, John Kirchgessner and I will travel to Stuttgart Germany to participate in an International Conference on Nursing History sponsored by the R. Bosch Foundation. Later that month, the Center will be hosting Dr. Anne Marie Rafferty, from the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and Midwifery, Kings College, London. Dr. Rafferty, the recipient of our prestigious Agnes Dillon Randolph award, will deliver the Randolph Lecture on March 18. In June, graduate students Barb Maling and Debbie Gleason-Morgan will be presenting the preliminary findings of their work on American Civil War nursing and children with diabetes at the CAHN conference in Toronto.

Other opportunities to participate in the “tipping point” of an international nursing history initiative abound. Just last week, I signed a letter of support for a proposal, spearheaded by Dr.
Barbra Wall at the University of Pennsylvania and supported by numerous colleagues from around the world, to form an international nursing history group as part of the International Council of Nurses. Such an organization will foster scholarship among nurse historians throughout the world.

Some would say that global initiatives are a 21st century phenomenon, and indeed with the speed of air travel and the instant communications available via email, cell phones, and teleconferencing, the world does seem smaller. But as is evident in our history, nurses have been involved internationally since the formal establishment of the ICN in 1899 and, more informally, long before that. Indeed, early in the 19th century numerous women religious traveled across the globe to provide care. Among these were two groups under investigation by doctoral students at UVA. Liza Zerull is researching the Lutheran Deaconesses who traveled to America from Germany in 1849, and Anne Cockerham is studying the Catholic Mission sisters who, after serving in remote villages of India, returned to the United States during World War II to provide care to mothers and babies in New Mexico. These are proving to be exciting projects, which will add to our focus on health care both in the U.S. and abroad. I hope that you will join us for some of the presentations!

Keeling Receives Dock Award

Arlene Keeling, now President of the American Association for the History of Nursing, was named the recipient of the Lavinia L. Dock Award for exemplary historical writing for her recent book *Nursing and the Privilege of Prescription, 1893-2000*. She received her award at the association’s annual conference in White Plains, NY, September, 2007.
2008 History Forums

McLeod Hall Room 5044
12:00-1:00 PM

January 29, 2008

“You’d think it was a fairy tale”: Letters of a Child with Diabetes Before and After the Discovery of Insulin, 1921-1922.

Debbie Gleason-Morgan MSN, RN, CPNP
UVA School of Nursing Doctoral Student

February 19, 2008

“King’s Daughters babies don’t die”: Child Health in Norfolk, VA, 1897-1924.

Mary E. Gibson PhD, RN
CNHI Assistant Director

Congratulations!


Barbara Maling, one of our doctoral students passed her comprehensive examination in February. Ms. Maling’s research focuses on nursing care providers during the American Civil War.

Graduate Achievements

Dr. Jennifer Telford, 2007 U.Va. graduate in nursing history, will present “Care Amidst Nursing Shortage: The Relationship between the American Red Cross and the Navy Nurse Corps during World War I” as part of the Surgeon General’s Speaker Series in Bethesda, MD on April 29, 2008.

The Agnes Dillon Randolph Lecture
March 18, 2008

Anne Marie Rafferty, RGD, DN, Dean of the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and Midwifery, King’s College London, is the recipient of the 2008 Agnes Dillon Randolph Award. Dr. Rafferty, a renowned nurse historian whose research interests also include healthcare services and policy analysis, will be in Charlottesville to receive the Randolph Award and to present this year’s Randolph Lecture:

Emblems of the Empire: British Nurses in the Colonies, 1898-1946

U.Va. School of Nursing
McLeod Hall Auditorium
4:00-5:30 p.m.

Reception, sponsored by the Beta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, to follow.
**Staff Awards, Presentations, Publications & Accomplishments:**

**Brodie, B.** (September 16, 2007) "Licks the joints but bites the heart" of children: Rheumatic Fever. CNHI Nursing History Forum, Charlottesville, VA.

**Brodie, B.** (September 29, 2007) "Fixen my Broken Heart" in the La Rabida Children's Sanitarium 1932-1950s. American Association for the History of Nursing Conference, White Plains, NY.


**Gibson, Mary E.** Research committee for “The History of Cancer Care at the University of Virginia.”

**Keeling, A.** Editorial board of the *Nursing History Review*.

**Keeling, A.** (September, 2007) Lavinia L. Dock Award for exemplary historical research and writing (BOOK: *Nursing and the Privilege of Prescription*), the American Association for the History of Nursing.


**Kirchgessner, J.** (September 29, 2007) “Nursing Service is Over the Budget…” Reappraisal of the Cost of Nursing at the University of Virginia Hospital, 1945-1965.” American Association for the History of Nursing Conference, White Plains, N.Y.

**Student Presentations & Publications:**

**Cockerham, A. Z.** (September 29, 2007) Paper Presentation: "We are but Guests in the Marvelous Process of Birth:” Nurse-Midwives at the Catholic Maternity Institute, 1944-1968; American Association for the History of Nursing, White Plains, NY.


**Cockerham, A. Z.** (September, 2007) Competitive Student Research Award (Grant), the American Association for the History of Nursing.


**2007 Undergraduate Nursing History Award**

The recipients of the 2007 Undergraduate Nursing History Award are Erika Atzl, Jessica Brown, Ashley Inniss, Traci Kelly, Jillian Rubino, and Keller Stone. Their research paper entitled *The Blue Ridge Sanatorium and Tuberculosis Nursing*, focused on the history of the Blue Ridge Sanatorium and the nursing care provided to patients with tuberculosis during the first half of the 20th century. The award, presented during Family Weekend in October, is sponsored by the School of Nursing Alumni Association and recognizes excellence in historical research by undergraduate students.
2008 Barbara Brodie Nursing History Fellow

Dr. Karen Egenes, EdD, RN, Associate Professor, Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing, Loyola University of Chicago, is the 2008 recipient of the Barbara Brodie Nursing History Fellowship. Her research is entitled “In Pursuit of the Great White Plague: The Work of Nurses in the Chicago Metropolitan Tuberculosis Sanatorium, 1915-1970.” This project will build on her previous study of the history of the American Lung Association of Chicago and will describe the evolution of tuberculosis nursing. To collect her data, Dr. Egenes will draw on materials from archival collections as well as conduct a series of oral histories with nurses who worked for the Metropolitan Tuberculosis Sanatorium. She will present preliminary results of this study in the Center’s November 11, 2008 History Forum.

Visiting Scholar from Thailand

In fall, 2007 the Center hosted a Visiting Scholar from Bangkok, Thailand. Dr. La-iad JamJan, a midwife and Director of the Boromarajonani College of Nursing Nopparat Vajira, traveled to the Center to work closely with Barbara Brodie on a historical project to document the development of Thai professional nurse midwives. She also came to learn from Center staff about the process of establishing nursing archives because she wishes to develop an archives of historical documents that attest to the development of professional nurse midwives in Thailand.

Aside from working with Drs. Arlene Keeling, John Kirchgessner and Mary Gibson, Dr JamJan included in her visit to the U.S. trips to the University of Pennsylvania Barbara Bates Center for the Study of Nursing History, the Rockefeller Archives, the Library of Medicine, and visited nurse historians and archives in Chicago. Dr JamJan hopes to receive government funding for her historical project on Thai nurse midwives. We wish her great success in this interesting and worthwhile project.
Recently I inventoried and organized the Small Collections housed in the Center. Many of these collections are so small they do not even merit their own box. However, each of these small collections holds material of as much historical value as the Center’s larger collections. My challenge was not only to discover what was in the collections, but to organize them so that they could be used and understood.

When it comes to archives, beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Nursing papers cracked and yellowed with age may be obsolete to some, but they may also represent a piece of a missing puzzle in nursing historical inquiry. One entire box of the Center’s Small Collections is filled with student nursing notes. Within this box are notes recorded by Eula McGhee Stith who diligently recorded terminology, nursing ethics and pharmacology in the early-19th century when opium and cocaine were valued for their medicinal properties. Lois Miller Pilch likewise kept meticulous notes from her Practical Nursing course on topics ranging from making a bed to making a mustard plaster. The Collections also contain First Aid booklets over one hundred years old. *First Aid to the Injured*, by Lee H. Smith, informs readers that “the early stages of many diseases can be checked and the poisons thrown out of the body by the use of a good laxative made up of Mayapple, aloes, and jalap…”

Other papers in the Small Collections discuss nursing associations, specialty nursing and how the history of nursing was taught during the mid-20th century. Through generous donations of individual nurses, many of whom are UVA School of Nursing Alumnae, and family members the Center’s Small Collections now include sixteen boxes. These collections though small provide an enriched understanding of the profession and the lives of those who practiced daily the science and the art of nursing.

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**Notes from the Archivist**

Student Nursing Notes, Ester J. Crim, 1906. CNHI Small Collections, Box 10, Folder 15.
In January of 1897, forty year old Edith Nason, an “eminently qualified” graduate nurse of St. Luke’s Hospital in Chicago, assumed her new role as visiting nurse for the Norfolk City Union of the King’s Daughters (CUKD). She secured a room at the YMCA, which became her first office, and under the direction of the CUKD, began her sixteen years of service providing care to the sick poor of all ages in Norfolk, Virginia, a city of about 45,000 people. Nason saw more than 1771 patients that first year.

Edith Nason’s hiring followed a decade of growth for the non-denominational, Protestant Christian women’s organization in Norfolk. The Norfolk CUKD was part of a national movement founded in New York by Margaret Bottome, the influential wife of a Methodist Episcopal minister. They adopted the motto “not to be ministered to but to minister…In His Name.” Other prominent women soon learned of the “sisterhood of service.” One of these, Mrs. Eliza Scott of Norfolk, set up one of the first Virginia “circles,” as the charitable groups were called. The King’s Daughters focused on education, temperance and evangelization, charity work and work among invalids. When the seventeen circles of Norfolk united to form the CUKD in 1896, they chose visiting nursing as their focus.

The setting was right. Virginia’s Progressive Era health and welfare professionals were overwhelmed by the needs of many poor whites and blacks who had relocated to cities seeking work. Norfolk’s water-based industries attracted disenchanted tenant farmers, immigrants and countless others desperate to improve their circumstances. In the burgeoning and segregated city, infants and children died at alarming rates, and Health Department estimates indicated that black infants died at approximately three times the rate of white children. Progressive reformers believed the power of science, efficiency and cooperation could help solve these intractable problems of society. Children were a major focus of progressive efforts. At the turn of the 20th century, Virginia’s education, health and welfare systems were restructuring in an attempt to manage the enormous changes resulting from reconstruction and the complete reordering of antebellum society and its economic basis.

The privileged women of the King’s Daughters circles acted as the lady managers of the visiting nurse program; they provided supplies, raised money to pay the nurse, secured and organized linens, made friendly visits, established rules of the...
Nurse Committee and sought referrals from physicians, ministers and other agencies. Physicians frequently provided voluntary services to direct the nurse’s work. Margaret Roper, the President of the CUKD, ran a very tightly organized program, harnessing the cooperation of the circles as well as multiple municipal and community agencies. Her leadership also guided the fledgling nurse service to use the most scientifically up to date methods.

Within a short decade, the visiting nurse service grew to include an additional trained nurse and a pupil nurse from Norfolk’s Protestant Hospital. The nurses’ mission outlined in the 1907 Annual Report suggests clear awareness of the broader instructive visiting nurse efforts going on throughout the country:

The Visiting Nurse is an important factor in the philanthropic work of all large cities. She works in connection with the Board of Health...with physicians among the poor whenever called upon. She at the same time discovers, alleviates and prevents suffering. Prevention of suffering is as much her work as nursing; through her many children are saved from growing up blind, cripple or deaf, she has to work upon the ignorance of parent to allow the child to be cured of its infirmities.

Health education was foremost in the mission of the CUKD, as was the motivation to improve the health of the city. Personnel and programs were added steadily, and included a summer baby nurse, a nurse assistant, housekeepers, milk and food distribution assisted by a community supported Milk and Ice Fund, maternity care, a tuberculosis clinic, and a seaside camp for children. The first black nurse, Miss Eva Davis joined the staff in 1910, and demands on her time were so great that within a month the CUKD hired an additional black nurse.

The early hiring of a black nurse was profoundly significant in this southern segregated society. Providing care to black patients was problematic for white nurses. White nurses cared for black patients prior to 1910, but socially imposed boundaries existed that circumscribed their practice. The “bed” care of black men in particular challenged existing mores, demanding close proximity and potentially inappropriate intimacy with white nurses. The addition of black nurses, despite the necessary inconvenience of separate sickroom supplies for black patients, permitted white nurses to remain above reproach while they allowed the CUKD to provide charitable care to all who needed it. By 1913, the CUKD employed 5 white nurses and 4 black nurses who made 8,423 visits to white patients and 7,851 visits to black patients that year.

In 1912, Edith Nason, long revered by the King’s Daughters, died suddenly after 16 years of service to the CUKD. Despite a history of organic heart disease, she chose to continue her exemplary work among Norfolk’s poor knowing that the physical demands of such work might “end her earthly career” at any time. In 1914, Ethel Smith, a graduate of St. Luke’s Hospital in New York City, replaced Nason and took over the supervision of 6 white and 3 black nurses and the work that her predecessor had initiated. Recognizing children’s great needs, Smith established a “Baby Clinic” in

Photo courtesy of King’s Daughters Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia.
May of 1914 that was held two times a week with the volunteer help of Dr. Lawrence Royster. The clinic registered 505 visits in the first six months, and word of mouth spread the news from mother to mother about the successes of the clinic.

Throughout this era, the CUKD focused heavily on children’s care and the prevention of infant mortality. The Children’s Bureau dedicated 1918 as the “Year of the Child,” and as a result of this initiative the CUKD conducted a house-to-house survey of Norfolk to register births accurately. In so doing, they weighed and measured more than 3000 children. Nurses assisted in the management of pregnancy and delivery, and both mothers and babies were routinely followed for a year after delivery. Feeding problems were common and the following summarized a typical case:

Baby 217 came to us at 6 months of age at less than birth weight. He was thought to be dead. He was fed with a medicine dropper for four days and four days more with a teaspoon before he had strength to nurse from a bottle. He is one of 9 children and mother works in the mill. The child was kept at headquarters day and night until he was able to go home with his 14 year old sister who learned to be a good nurse to him.

The Children’s Clinic expanded, adding pediatricians, who reflected new specialties in eye, ear nose and throat, orthopedics, dermatology, pathology, anesthesia and dentistry to the daily clinic. Operations were performed at the clinic and the “crèche” or nursery kept children overnight when needed for “special treatment or care.” When the Kiwanis Club donated a new clinic building in 1921, they promptly added another floor to be used for children requiring overnight care. By the mid-1920s the King’s Daughters had a new superintendent, Miss Blanche Webb, a small complex of buildings devoted to their mission and 2 Ford automobiles that carried the nurses to their visits and their many established health stations throughout the area. Their well-managed operation continued to grow in the subsequent decades, and in 1961 the CUKD opened the first hospital in Virginia devoted solely to children’s care. They remain highly involved in the operation of the comprehensive, state of the art hospital today.

Several factors led to the success of the Kings Daughters. Initially, they were well-organized, fiscally responsible and responsive to the needs of their community, and had a loyal following. In addition, they collaborated well with various groups such as United Charities, the Red Cross, the YMCA/YWCA, the health, welfare and civic authorities and diverse groups including the Jewish and the African-American communities within Norfolk. They maintained steady and long-tenured leadership. The original President, Margaret Roper Moss remained in her post for over 40 years, and three of the Superintendent nurses remained in their leadership posts leaving only due to illness or death. CUKD nurses served in administrative posts in Virginia’s Graduate Nurses’ Association and the Red Cross, and they were active in the American Nurses’ Association (ANA) and National Organization of Public Health Nursing (NOPHN). Thus, they were tightly bound to organized nursing in Virginia and beyond. Finally, the King’s Daughters as an organization remained vibrant because mothers passed along the Christian obligation of service to their daughters, who continued the work. According to their 1918 Annual Report, “The loving interest of the King’s Daughters, in the work and those helped, surely makes for its greater success.”

Notes:
1 Annual Report, The City Union of the King’s Daughters of Norfolk, Va. 1897.
3 This estimate is stated in Earl Lewis, In Their Own Interests (Berkley, University of California Press, 1993), 81. Lewis cites that then Norfolk Health Commissioner, Powhatan Schenck’s Annual Reports of Officers, Boards, and Institutions of the Commonwealth of Virginia, table 2 in each volume for the years 1922-1931 located in the Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va.


5 Annual Report, The City Union of the King’s Daughters of Norfolk, Va. 1897.

6 Annual Report, The City Union of the King’s Daughters of Norfolk, Va. 1907.

7 Annual Report, The City Union of the King’s Daughters of Norfolk, Va. 1911.

8 Ibid. The Colored Branch of the Needlework Guild gladly supplied separate linen/equipment closet. For a good discussion of racial issues facing visiting nurses in the South, see Karen Buhler-Wilkerson, No Place Like Home (Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Press, 2001): 90-97.

9 Annual Report, City Union of the King’s Daughters, 1912.

10 Annual Report, City Union of the King’s Daughters, 1914.

11 Annual Report, The City Union of the King’s Daughters, 1918. Powhatan Schenck, Health Commissioner of Norfolk wrote a congratulatory letter which was included in this 1918 report.

12 Annual Report, City Union of the King’s Daughters, September 30, 1917.

13 Annual Report, City Union of the King’s Daughters, 1919.

14 Annual Report, City Union of the King’s Daughters, 1916.

15 The Norfolk City Union of the King’s Daughters, 1897-1947. The additional floor was added in 1924.

16 Ibid. Blanche Webb was a public health-trained nurse (Columbia) who had worked at Henry Street Settlement. She replaced Ethel Smith who resigned for health reasons.

17 Annual Report, The City Union of the King’s Daughters, 1918.

The author gratefully acknowledges the assistance of those in the office of the CUKD at Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters in Norfolk, who allowed unlimited access to the original records of the CUKD. This article partially reflects content of Chapter 3 of the author’s dissertation: “From Charity to an Able Body: the Care of Disabled Children in Virginia, 1910-1935.” University of Pennsylvania, 2007.

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**Center Acquisitions**

Megan Benckert — additions to the Nursing Students Without Borders collection

Barbara Brodie — nursing history books

Ellen Deppe — Red Cross Home Nursing, 1951.

Margaret Easter — Society in Crisis group papers.

Mary Gibson — nursing history book

Virginia Hayes — Johns Hopkins Hospital School of Nursing Certificate of Completion, 1958.

Louise Ivanov — additions to the Nursing Students Without Borders collection

Arlene Keeling — baby scale, invalid feeder, historic nursing texts

Jeanette Lancaster — inkwell and quill pens, public health nursing books

Victoria Menzies — nursing history books


Kathryn Reid — nursing history books

Sylvia Rinker — CNHI history documents

Shelby Shires — letter from Roy Beazley, MA, RN, Director of Nursing Education and Department of Nursing Services, 1946-1952.

Audrey Snyder — additions to the Nursing Students Without Borders collection


Esther Thatcher — additions to the Nursing Students Without Borders collection
For much of the 20th century American mothers have drawn on the advice of pediatricians on how to care and feed their infants. This advice has changed over time but below is the eminent pediatrician, Dr. Emmett Holt’s, advice to mothers and nurses in 1920 on the infant’s need for an abundance of fresh air as he grows.

**Fresh Air**

“Fresh air is required to renew and purify the blood, and that is just as necessary for health and growth as proper food. The appetite is improved, the digestion is better, the cheeks become red, and all signs of health are seen”.

The baby should be have periods of airing both indoors and outside. “The nursery should be aired at least twice a day—in the morning after the child’s bath, and again in the evening before the child is put to bed for the night. Airing may begin with a healthy child, even in cold weather, when he is one month old, at first for only 15 or 20 minutes at a time. This period may be gradually lengthened by 10 or 15 minutes each day until it is four or five hours. This airing may be continued in almost all kinds of weather. …. Instead of rendering the child liable to take cold, [airing] is the best means of preventing colds.”

“The child should be dressed with bonnet and light coat as if for the street and placed in its crib or carriage which should stand a few feet from the window. All the windows are then thrown wide open, but the doors closed to prevent draughts. Screens are not necessary.”

When out in the air it is important to see that “the wind never blows in the [child’s] face, that his feet are properly covered and warm, and that the sun is never allowed to shine into his eyes”

“Exceptions to all the above statements are to be made in the case of very small and especially delicate infants. Though they should have fresh air in abundance, they should be much more carefully protected against the cold.”

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**Thank You**
for
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Nursing and Medical History Opportunities

Dr. Barbara Brodie to Keynote American Association for the History of Nursing 25th Annual Research Conference

The Keynote Speaker for the 2008 AAHN Annual Conference is **Barbara Brodie, PhD, RN, FAAN, Emeritus Professor and Associate Director, Center for Nursing Historical Inquiry, School of Nursing, University of Virginia.** The American Association for the History of Nursing and the School of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania, are co-sponsoring the Association's twenty-fifth annual conference to be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 25-28, 2008. The American Association for History of Nursing is celebrating 25 years of Historical Nursing Research at the 2008 conference, and welcomes all scholars, students and individuals wishing to attend this event.

For further information regarding the conference please visit the AAHN website at:

www.aahn.org

**Medical History Conferences**

The American Association for the History of Medicine
Rochester, New York
April 10-13, 2008
Additional information: www.histmed.org

Canadian Association for the History of Nursing
Toronto, Canada
June 5-7, 2008.
Additional information: www.cahn-achn.ca

Workgroup of European Nurse Researchers (WENR) Conference
Vienna, Austria
September 2-5, 2008
Additional information: www.oegkv.at.

The Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science Annual Meeting
Feb. 29-Mar. 1, 2008
University of Gainseville, Florida
Additional information: www.sahms.net

The Society for the Social History of Medicine
Glasgow, Scotland
September 3-5, 2008
Additional information: www.sshm.org

**Barbara Brodie Nursing History Fellow 2009**

*The Center for Nursing Historical Inquiry Barbara Brodie Nursing History Fellowship,* a postdoctoral award, is open to nurses engaged in historical scholarship that advances the field of nursing history. Applications for the $3000 award are due October 15, 2008, and the recipient will be announced in December, 2008. The selected Barbara Brodie Nursing History Fellow will present a paper from their research in the Center’s History Forum series.

Selection of the fellow will be based on the scholarly quality of the investigator’s project including: the clarity of the project’s purpose, its rationale and significance, the rigor of its methodology and questions posed, and its potential contributions to the field of nursing.

The application and a curriculum vitae should be sent to Dr. Arlene Keeling, Director, Center for Nursing Historical Inquiry, University of Virginia School of Nursing, PO Box 800782, McLeod Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia 22908. Applications are available on the Center’s Web site, at:

From the CNHI Photo Collection

American nurse caring for French child, 1918. CNHI Photographic Collections.
Membership Application and Renewal

The Center for Nursing Historical Inquiry

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