

News, Notes, and Queries

MA in Medicine, Occupation and Health in Historical Perspective University of Exeter

In October 2000, the Centre for Medical History at the University of Exeter is launching a new MA programme based in the School of Historical, Political and Sociological Studies. The programme builds on the expertise of the staff at the Centre, including the director, Dr Joseph Melling, and Dr Mark Jackson.

One of the main issues facing any advanced society is the health and welfare of its population, including the quality of the working life which its citizens enjoy. In recent years, awareness about the health implications and medical consequences of physical and emotional stress within the workplace has increased. The MA in Medicine, Occupation and Health in Historical Perspective is the multi-disciplinary study of the role of modern medicine in the workplace in an international context. It will integrate the history of medicine and medical practice with contemporary issues in occupational health. Particular emphasis will be placed on the relationship between health and welfare in the workplace and the development of medical science in advanced societies. The MA is designed primarily as a

historical survey of the major issues in the contribution made by occupational medicine to the growth of knowledge and medical practice within modern societies. This MA introduces a distinctive focus in the history of medicine which is not found in many other programmes.

This is a taught MA, offered full-time or part-time in a modular format. Options will include, but are not limited to, Health in Modern Britain, and Work, Health and Medical Intervention since 1800. Scope will be provided for students to develop a fieldwork module. This option will enable a student to combine professional experience with an intellectual perspective on the historical development of their chosen area. A dissertation will allow students to develop an original research programme, working independently on a relevant topic.

For further information, please see our web site: <http://www.ex.ac.uk/shipss/medhist/> Alternatively, please contact us at the centre. E-mail: MedArch@exeter.ac.uk; Address: Centre for Medical History, University of Exeter, Exeter, EX4 4RJ, UK; Tel: (44) 01392 263297; Fax: (44) 01392 263305.

Society for the Social History of Medicine Millennium Essay Competitions

The Society for the Social History of Medicine (SSHM) invites submissions for its two Millennium Prize Essay Competitions. These prizes will be awarded to the best original, unpublished essays in the social history of medicine submitted (by 31 December 2000) to each competition as judged by the SSHM's assessment panel.

The millennium essay competition is open to post-doctoral scholars and faculty who

obtained their PhD or equivalent qualification after 31 December 1994. The student millennium essay competition is open to students in full or part-time education. Each prize-winner will be awarded £300, and his or her entry may also be published in the journal, *Social History of Medicine*.

Further details and entry forms can be down-loaded from the Society's website.

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<http://www.lrz-muenchen.de/~sshm/prize.htm>
Alternatively please contact the membership secretary, David Cantor, Department of History and Economic History, Manchester Metropolitan University, Geoffrey Manton

Building, Rosamond Street West,
Manchester M15 6LL. England.
d.cantor@mmu.ac.uk or
dcantor@fs4.ma.man.ac.uk.

Call for Papers

American Association for the History of Medicine 18–22 April 2001

The American Association for the History of Medicine welcomes papers on topics related to the history of health and healing, of medical ideas, practices and institutions, the history of illness, disease, and public health—from all areas and regions of the world. The programme committee welcomes session proposals and proposals for luncheon workshops; the papers for such sessions will be judged on their individual merits. All papers must represent original work not already

published or in press. Please send six copies of a one page abstract (350 words maximum) to Janet Golden, History Department, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ 08102, USA. Abstracts should not merely state a research question, but describe findings and conclusions. Please also provide the following: name, preferred mailing address, work and home telephone numbers, present institutional affiliation, and academic degrees. Abstracts must be received by 15 September 2000.

Hospital Records Database

Hosprec, the joint Wellcome/Public Record Office Hospital Records Database, which has over 2800 entries, is now available for online searching by name and town, at <http://hospitalrecords.pro.gov.uk/> and via the Wellcome Library website, <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/library>. The information in the database, which deals mainly with records in local authority or other record offices or administered by health authority archivists, includes what administrative and

clinical records survive, for what date-span, where they are held, and what finding aids are in existence, and historical and administrative details. The database is constantly being updated. Researchers interested in more complex searching should contact the Contemporary Medical Archives Centre at the Wellcome Library, Tel.: 020-7611-8483/6, Fax: 020 7611-8703, e-mail: cmac@wellcome.ac.uk, or by post at 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE, UK.

Erratum

In the Book Notice of *The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow: treasures of the College*, edited by James J Beaton, Roy Miller, Iain T Boyle, which appeared in the January 2000 issue of *Medical History*, p. 146, it

was stated that the archive reference of the first Faculty Minute Book had been wrongly cited. This is not the case, the reference appears correctly as RCPSG 1/1/1/1a.