The History of Psychiatry Section
Annual Report to the Friends
July 1, 1998 - June 30, 1999
Interdisciplinary Research Faculty
Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminar
The Oskar Diethelm Library

Department of Psychiatry
Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College
Cornell University
The New York Presbyterian Hospital
525 East 68th Street, Box 171
New York, New York 10021
(212) 746-3727
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Friends of the History of Psychiatry Section
Interdisciplinary Research Faculty

George J. Makari, M.D.          Director
Diane Richardson, M.L.I.S.       Special Collections Librarian
Jodi M. Ketchum                  Administrative Assistant

Anna M. Antonovsky, Ph.D.
Ralph D. Baker, M.D.
Michael Beldoch, Ph.D.
Cornelius J. Clark, M.D.
Norman Dain, Ph.D.               (Rutgers University)
Katherine Dalsimer, Ph.D.
Aaron H. Esman, M.D.
Lawrence Friedman, M.D.
William A. Frosch, M.D.
Sander L. Gilman, Ph.D.          (University of Chicago)
Robert Goldstein, M.D.
Gerald N. Grob, Ph.D.            (Rutgers University)
Leonard C. Groopman, M.D., Ph.D.
Leon D. Hankoff, M.D.            (UMDNJ)
John Kerr
Nathan M. Kravis, M.D.
Barbara Fass Leavy, Ph.D.        (Queens College, CUNY)
Doris B. Nagel, M.D.
Louis A. Sass, Ph.D.             (Rutgers University)
Paul E. Stepansky, Ph.D.
Craig Tomlinson, M.D.            (Columbia University)

All have appointments at or are employed by Weill Medical College of Cornell University. If the member's primary academic position is elsewhere, it is given in parentheses.
The History of Psychiatry Section

The History of Psychiatry Section is an interdisciplinary research unit in the Department of Psychiatry of the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College and The New York Presbyterian Hospital. Its objective is to carry out, encourage, and advise scholarship in a broad range of historical topics that are relevant to the present day theory and practice of psychiatry. Its basic activities include the Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminars and the administering of the Oskar Diethelm Library.

The foundation of the Section was laid in 1936, when Dr. Oskar Diethelm, Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Director of the recently opened Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic, began assembling books and journals important to the history of psychiatry, convinced as he was of their value to clinicians. Stimulated by this growing resource, Dr. Eric T. Carlson formally launched the History of Psychiatry Section in 1958, when he received a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to pursue research into the history of American psychiatry. At the same time, Dr. Diethelm appointed him to a newly created position as Director of the Section.

Under the leadership of Dr. Carlson, the activities and collections of the Section steadily expanded to serve a wide range of interests, from the education of medical students and residents to the exchange of ideas among historically oriented scholars from many disciplines. In the early 1960's, Dr. Carlson instituted the biweekly research seminar, which in 1993 were renamed the Richardson Research Seminars in honor of the Richardson's generous support.

When Dr. Diethelm retired in 1962, the Section's rare books library was named in his honor. The Oskar Diethelm Library now contains over 40,000 printed items, constituting the most comprehensive collection of its kind in the United States. Initially, the emphasis was on collecting British and American works from the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth Centuries as well as Renaissance works in Latin. As the Library grew, however, it developed major collections dating from the Fifteenth Century in French, German, and Italian, as well as acquiring selected works in Arabic, Dutch, Hungarian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish,
The Library now counts among its holdings nearly every edition of the monographs of such important figures as Emil Kraepelin, Sigmund Freud, Isaac Ray and Benjamin Rush. The Library holds significant collections of works in such areas as the history of hypnotism and psychoanalysis, the American mental hygiene movement, and the temperance movement, as well as religious and medical debates on witchcraft, suicide, and sexual behaviors. There are also many early and rare first-person accounts of psychiatric illness, alcoholism, and drug abuse. The Library is particularly strong in complete runs of several crucial and uncommon journals. An impressive collection of hospital and asylum reports of the Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries has been amassed, amounting to more than 3,500 items.

Dr. Diethelm recognized the value of knowledge contained in early dissertations written for the medical degree in pre-Enlightenment Europe. He traveled throughout Europe to identify them in foreign repositories and collect what he could for the Library, eventually collating his work into his Medical Dissertations of Psychiatric Interest before 1750 (Basel: Karger, 1971). The Library's collection of these theses now stands at nearly five hundred.

In 1976, the manuscript division of the Library was officially established, indicating its growing importance as a repository for the unpublished papers of many organizations and individuals vital to the history of psychiatry. The Library now houses fifty-nine manuscript collections. It is the official depository of such institutions as the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, the American Psychoanalytic Association, and the Cheiron Society. Its holdings of the papers of D.W. Winnicott and David Levy make it an important resource for the study of child psychiatry and psychoanalysis. Through the generosity of Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, primary sources have been added to the division relating to such cases vital to the history of forensic psychiatry as the M’Naughton trial and the Guiteau trial, as well as more recent cases. There are also notable holdings related to the American mental hygiene movement and biological psychiatry, and letters by Clifford Beers, Sigmund Freud, Morton Prince, William James, G. Stanley Hall, Johann Spurzheim, Andrew and George Combe, Herbert Spencer, August Forel, Francis Galton, S. Weir Mitchell, and Harry Stack Sullivan to name a few.

From its earliest days, numerous scholars have worked in the
Oskar Diethelm Library, publishing their discoveries as articles or books. From the Renaissance psychiatry that Dr. Diethelm pursued and the early American psychiatry that Dr. Carlson explored, the topics of inquiry multiplied. The list has grown to include biographies of psychiatrists, psychologists, and pioneers in mental hygiene; accounts of the development of child psychiatry and the changing attitude toward children; books on psychoanalysis and its reception in various parts of the world; histories of psychiatry during specific periods, of particular mental hospitals that epitomized the development of the field, and of particular sub-specialties such as the treatment of alcoholism or schizophrenia; studies in legal psychiatry; topics in British, German, and French psychiatry; histories and analyses of ideas and concepts in psychiatry, psychology, and psychoanalysis; works on the relationship between psychiatry and literature, and psychiatry and religion; and investigations of multiple personality and hypnosis. There are also two published volumes of symposia sponsored by the Section.

Dr. Carlson organized the Friends of the Oskar Diethelm Library in 1964, thus widening the Library's circle of interested and active supporters. Those who could not participate directly, but who recognized the value of the Library's programs, began to give generously to benefit the collections and support the scholars who use them. The Friends' regular membership has grown steadily, while larger grants from far-seeing individuals and foundations have permitted the awarding of fellowships, the acquisition of special collections, and the consolidation of historical materials from the New York Hospital's Westchester division into the Library.

After the death of Ted Carlson in 1992, Dr. George Makari assumed the Directorship of the Section. During his tenure, Dr. Makari has undertaken a number of initiatives, including the launching of the Cornell Studies in the History of Psychiatry book series, the inauguration of the Carlson Grand Rounds in the History of Psychiatry, and the modernization and professional cataloguing of the Section’s holdings. In 1994, the History of Psychiatry Section responded to the prospective razing of the Payne Whitney Clinic by moving the Oskar Diethelm Library to temporary quarters at the New York Academy of Medicine. The Library returned to the campus of Weill Medical College and the New York Presbyterian Hospital in the spring of 1999 where it now occupies state-of-the-art facilities.
From the Director’s Office

Exile may be unpleasant, but it can also be instructive in matters of community and identity. The years of exile of the History of Psychiatry Section from the Payne Whitney Clinic and the temporary relocation of the Oskar Diethelm Library of the New York Academy of
Medicine were difficult, but also defining. As the History of Psychiatry Section became less a concrete place and more of an idea, our research and educational mission became more clearly defined. And never has it been clearer how crucial our extraordinary research library is to the rest of the Section's mission then during its years away from home.

At the end of this academic year, we settled into a glorious new space on the twelfth floor of a fully renovated Baker Pavilion of the Weill Medical College and the New York Presbyterian Hospital. I invite all of you to see first hand the lovely reading room, to use the library in the state-of-the-art facility, and to attend our Richardson Research Seminars in the nearby conference room. But, before celebrating the prodigal's return, I would like to pay tribute to someone who defined himself again and again as deeply committed to our surviving this exile. Department Chairman, Jack D. Barchas, M.D. fought for the Section and the Oskar Diethelm Library in a way that was called tenacious, stubborn, visionary and inspired. In the pitched battle for the square footage during the building of the new New York Hospital, Jack refused to be swayed by the short-term fiscal pressures, and did not accede to numbers crunchers who no doubt argued that this distinguished division and its world class library made no economic sense in the era of managed care. Many of you may know Jack for his many professional activities, but I would like to tell you a bit about his origins.

Like Oskar Diethelm, Jack came from a family where treasuring books was a passionate pursuit. Jack's parents, Samuel and Cecile Barchas, began collecting rare books in the history of science in the 1950's. That was a period in which few had a passion for the history of the sciences, and consequently professionals such as Oskar Diethelm or Samuel Barchas with a deep interest could be successful as collectors. Over the next four decades, the Barchas' devoted themselves to this endeavor, and in the process assembled one of the great collections in the history of science anywhere in the world. And in 1985, the Barchas family didn't enlist Sotheby's to auction off this invaluable collection; rather they donated it \textit{in toto} to Stanford University.

To mark this extraordinary donation, Stanford published a catalogue entitled: \textit{The Barchas Collection: The Making of Modern Science} (1985). Here one finds extraordinary works, such as Euclid's \textit{Elementa Geometriae} from 1482, Ptolemy's 1538 \textit{Magnae Constructionis}, Versalius' \textit{De Humanis Corporis Fabrica} published in
1543… The list goes on and on and includes Galileo, Newton, Pascal, Hooke, Descartes, Voltaire, Pasteur, Koch, Helmholtz, Freud, Maxwell… this is but a tiny sample of the treasures in the Barchas collection.

So who better to understand the extraordinary value of the 1546 *Avicenna*, the collection of Renaissance medical theses and temperance tracts, or the archival holdings of the Oskar Diethelm Library, than Jack? Who better to understand the historian's mission to knit the past to the present? His fight, and ours, had been too sustain and shield an ideal of scholarship in a culture that at present does much to dissuade and dismiss such aspirations. His fierce advocacy has now born fruit. The re-opening of the History of Psychiatry Section and the Oskar Diethelm Library marks a new beginning for us as an institution committed to the scholarly study of psychiatry's past, from witchcraft trials in the Fifteenth Century to the latest research fad.

The events of the past year have been energized and enriched by the expectation that our new home would hold us. During this year the Richardson Research Seminars were again expertly coordinated by Aaron Esman, who concluded his three-year tenure with characteristic graciousness and aplomb. The Carlson lectureship was received by the eminent medical historian Charles Rosenberg, research activities were vigorous and the teaching of undergraduate and graduate students, medical students, residents, and analytical candidates spread our faculty into institutions of higher learning throughout the tri-state area.

There are many homilies and cliches about home. According to D.W. Winnicott - whose papers reside in our collection - home is where we start from. Thomas Wolfe has warned us that you can never go home again. I hope upon seeing our new space, you will agree that, even if we can never go back to the old home so many of us were tied to, this is a wonderful place from which we can start afresh.

† George J. Makari, M.D.
Oskar Diethelm Library: Librarian's Report

Despite numerous obstacles, The Oskar Diethelm Library relocated to its new home in July 1999. The logistical problem of transporting tens of thousands of books--many of them extremely rare, fragile, and valuable--across Manhattan was daunting in itself. Compounding the problem were difficulties involved in moving the books from an area accessible only by a very small stack elevator, through the basement of the New York Academy of Medicine, up a freight elevator, to the waiting vans. Because of construction activities
and elevator use at The New York Presbyterian Hospital, the vans could not be unloaded until after 7:00 p.m., which made for some very long days. In spite of these difficulties, the move was accomplished with a minimum of confusion and no damage to the collection, thanks to the professionalism of National Library Relocation, Inc.

The books were packed in shelf order onto movable shelving units and vacuumed to remove decades of dust, debris, and potential mould spores. The entire library was then moved to its new location within five days, and our first scheduled researcher arrived from Canada to use the collection on August 9th. We are forever grateful to the New York Academy of Medicine for providing space for our library for nearly five years. That said, I think we can all agree there’s nothing quite like returning home.

Cataloging of the collection continues. A large percentage of the collection has been entered into OCLC and we anticipate completion of this task next year. We have begun exploring the online catalog options available to us and hope to decide which system we will use early next year. By designing and implementing a site on the Internet, Oskar Diethelm Library will become much more accessible to scholars throughout the world.

Over 50 new titles have been purchased for the library; all of them recently published works in the history of psychiatry. Additionally, Theodore Shapiro, M.D. has donated long runs of several journals to us, along with a number of out-of-print books. Milton Viederman, M.D. was kind enough to donate typescripts of two courses taught by David Rappaport from 1955 to 1959.

We are striving to create a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere in our new home, combining the ambience of the old library with technological advances that insure our treasures will be available to researchers in years to come. The Oskar Diethelm Library is open from 10:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from noon to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays. If you have special research needs or would like to use materials from our archival collection, please call us at (212) 746-3728.

Diane Richardson
The New Oskar Diethelm Library

The newly renovated Oskar Diethelm Library is located on the twelfth floor of the Baker Pavilion of the New York Presbyterian Hospital, in facilities elegantly designed by the architectural firm of Taylor Clark Architects Inc. Combining a sleek aesthetic with an efficient functionalism, the new reading room and stack space allows for security, easy access, maximal shelving and a welcoming ambience for library users.

Planned to take advantage of current technologies for the preservation of rare books in a minimum of space, the stacks are located in a secure area closed to the public. The security system utilizes such advances as a palm-reader to insure that only authorized individuals gain access to the book stacks. Compact mobile shelving maximizes our linear shelf space in the stacks. The Kardex Kompact system consists of electronically controlled shelves that glide on tracks sunk into the concrete floor of the room. A long, continuous shelving range along one wall handles books, while shorter, wider units on the opposite wall hold archives, print boxes, and oversized material. Safety features include a
gearing mechanism that slows the shelves as they come to a stop, and sensors that stop the shelves from moving if anything is left in the aisle space.

Atmospheric controls insure both temperature and humidity are kept within acceptable limits for long-term storage of paper and bindings. Demonstrating our commitment to the long-term preservation of the library's materials, we eschewed water or dry chemical based fire protection systems, which pose the risk of damaging books and manuscripts. Instead we invested in an Inergin fire suppression system, which utilizes compressed gas as an extinguishing agent in case of fire. Both smoke and fire detectors monitor the area. A processing room, with workspace sufficient to process book and archival materials, is also housed in the stack area.

A permanent exhibit area divides the entrance to the stacks from the reading room of Oskar Diethelm Library. We hope to use the space to further our educational mission through the mounting of shows culled from the collection. The reading room is furnished with tables and chairs from the original Payne Whitney Library. Attractive glass shelves display new acquisitions and current issues of pertinent journals. We are most pleased with our new library and anticipate that generations of scholars will find it a tranquil sanctuary as well as an outstanding resource.

Diane Richardson
Recent Acquisitions:

The Rappaport Seminars (1955-1959)

David Rappaport is a central figure in the history of psychoanalysis. Born in Hungary in 1911, he immigrated to the United States in 1938, worked in Topeka, Kansas at the Menninger Foundation from 1940 to 1948, and then moved to Austen Riggs in Stockbridge, Massachusetts where he remained until his early death in 1960. He was most noted as a scholar in clinical psychology and psychoanalytic theory, and actually had no clinical psychoanalytic experience until 1949, when, because of his interest in the organization and pathology of thought he treated some schizophrenic and borderline patients. Thanks to the generosity of Milton Viederman, M.D., the History of Psychiatry Section has acquired eight volumes, consisting of about 1000 pages, of typed, verbatim transcripts of seminars that Rappaport taught at the Western New England Psychoanalytic Institute from 1955 to 1959. They focus on metapsychology and ego psychology, and were edited by Stuart C. Miller, one of the candidates in the 1955 seminar. They provide a vivid portrayal of Rappaport, his students, Freud's theoretical model, psychoanalytic thinking in the 1950's, and the classroom culture of a major institute at the time.

The 1955 seminars are on ego psychology and in the terms of subject matter actually following the chronologically later classes on metapsychology. The latter are more edited with the integration of material from classes held over a three year period (1957-1959). The candidates constitute an impressive group, including Seymour Lustman, David Shapiro and others, although it is clear that the outstanding student and "teacher's pet" is Rappaport's long time colleague and protégé, Roy Schafer, who would be teaching in the Institute within a few years. The work was considerable; there were nine meetings in the late 1955 series, with a required reading list of 953 pages. (Roy tells me that a joke among the candidates was that one could not pass the course until every word in Chapter Seven of the *Interpretation of Dreams* was underlined.)

The first six sessions are on Freud, the last three on his followers - Anna Freud, Hartmann, Erikson, and Rappaport himself. There wasn't enough time, and Rappaport frequently complained about the limitations of the schedule and the need to move on. There was almost no reference to anything clinical ("We needn't dwell on the clinical, you have enough clinical teachers"), and little ever to anything psychological. The focus was on Freud's writing and his theory - what did he say, when, what did it mean, how did it change, and what
is the evolving conceptual model? Much of the classroom discussion involved a kind of responsive reading - Rappaport mentioned a theme; someone in the class read a relevant paragraph from the text; Rappaport commented, perhaps suggesting another paragraph that suggested an alternative view; someone in the class found that one and read it; and Rappaport validated the final correct synthesis. Other figures in the psychoanalytic literature are mentioned, including Abraham, Jung, Federn, Schilder, Waelder, Sullivan, Nunberg, Klein, Jacobson and Rado, usually with considerable disdain, although at times commenting on their clinical acuity or observational skill, but usually adding that they failed to get the theory right. (Erikson actually drops in on the class when his papers are being discussed, but he has trouble getting a word in edgewise.) Special disdain is reserved for contemporary non-psychoanalytic psychologists, such as Neal Miller and other learning theorists. Rappaport never questions his own basic approach, the nature of the question being asked, the value of the whole enterprise. The feeling is much more of Biblical exegesis than scientific discussion.

Rappaport knows that his teaching style is difficult, but he believes that it is essential. He apologizes for the suffering he causes the candidates. On June 4, 1955 he said: "You know, people, I am told again and again by a variety of people that what I am doing with you, or what we do here together, is really a crime, that nobody should be expected to read this much and nobody should be expected to operate on this level of abstraction. All I can say is that to my mind you are not kids. If you don't get anything else, then you get a flavor of what all there is to be learned and, as far as I am concerned, that's the only job of any teaching. I don't believe that teaching has the job of informing people about technical details. I am very glad to take the onus of the accusation. In the last two weeks I have heard it from three different sources. In a way I am kind of glad they got the point, if you see what I mean. That is a disagreeable in the meanwhile - well, call me a sadist. I never thought that knowledge can be acquired, or the beginnings of knowledge can be acquired without that. Just to round out the curriculum, Ecclesiastes has it in the end, at the end of the Ecclesiastes, "He who increases knowledge increases pain."

These papers will be of immense value to students of the history of Freud, metapsychology, Rappaport, psychoanalytic theory, psychoanalytic education, and to all who enjoy professional gossip. Many thanks to Dr. Viederman for placing these transcripts with the library.

Robert Michels, M.D.


*Eric T. Carlson Memorial Grand Rounds in the History of Psychiatry*

On February 3, 1999 Charles E. Rosenberg presented the Department of Psychiatry's fifth annual Eric T. Carlson, M.D. Memorial Grand Rounds and Richardson Research Seminar.
Professor Rosenberg is perhaps the preeminent American historian of medicine today. He is Professor of History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania, a past president of the American Association for the History of Medicine, and author of numerous distinguished books and articles on the history of American medicine and science. Much of his published work has focused on the history of psychiatry and on the social implication of various diseases and disease concepts.

In his Carlson Memorial Grand Rounds, entitled "Expanding Boundaries: Behavior, Deviance, and Diagnosis in the late Nineteenth Century," Professor Rosenberg looked at the years 1870-1900, a period in which psychiatry and psychiatric nomenclature increasingly became a "cultural actor" in society's efforts to define and grapple with mental illness.

Professor Rosenberg began by showing how today's controversies over psychiatric diagnostics - for example, disputes about the specificity, or etiology of established disorders such as ADHD, or debates about the nature of homosexuality, alcoholism, or criminality - are foreshadowed by Nineteenth Century precedents, themselves reflections of centuries of questioning the boundaries between illness and deviance. Suicide and witchcraft are two examples of deviant behavior long assessed in terms of the categories of illness versus sinfulness. The Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries saw a push in the direction of defining deviant behavior as illness, epitomized by the exculpatory concept of moral insanity.

Throughout the Nineteenth Century psychiatrists played an increasingly important role as "boundary keepers," judging when behaviors should be viewed as symptoms of illness. The germ theory of disease, ascendant within medicine from the 1860's and achieving hegemony by the 1880's, "gave shape and legitimacy to the disease category." By 1870, Professor Rosenberg stated, psychiatry had largely embraced the paradigm of disease specificity, with the embedded assumption of characteristic clinical course and outcome and an accompanying emphasis (borrowed from clinical pathology) on anatomic lesions. Psychiatrists drew upon and contributed to the epoch's growing interest in degeneration theory. Professor Rosenberg adduced George Bernard's notion of neurasthenia, introduced in the 1860s and popularized in the 1870s and 1880s, as an example of clinical entity initially conceptualized in reductionistic physicalist terms.

Professor Rosenberg described a proliferation of contested clinical
entities within psychiatry during the years in question (1870-1890).
His remarks invited comparison to more recent developments in
psychiatric nomenclature and diagnostics, ranging from chronic fatigue
syndrome (a Twentieth Century appellation for neurasthenia) to "road
rage." He deftly succeeded in his overall aim, which was to illustrate how
psychiatry forms part of our culture's framework for weighing responses to
social ills.

Delving back to an earlier part of the Nineteenth Century, Professor
Rosenberg pursued this then further in his Richardson Research Seminar
presentation, entitled "Popular Medicine and Mental Hygiene." By briefly
describing William Sweetser's work, Mental Hygiene (1843), Professor
Rosenberg illustrated certain typical early and mid-century views of mental
health as reflected in child-rearing advice and views about how to handle
the threat posed to mental stability by strong emotions. "Passions" such as
anger, fear, grief, ambition, envy, and lust tended to be seen as affects
capable of spinning out of control, disrupting self-governance and hedonic
regulation. In contrast to fin-de-siècle concerns about depression and
anxiety, this era's mental health manuals tended to view insanity and other
forms of gross dyscontrol as the foremost dangers, though even then the
"nervousness" associated with modernity was a topic of lively interest.

In their emphasis on the importance of sometimes "outwitting" one's
own "nerves," these early mental hygiene treatises began to formulate the
notion of defense mechanisms gone awry. In this respect they helped lay
the foundations for the surge of interest in suggestive therapeutics and
psychotherapy that was soon to follow.

Altogether, the erudition and scholarly curiosity on display throughout
Professor Rosenberg's Grand Rounds and Richardson Research Seminar
did honor to the memory of Ted Carlson.

† Nathan Kravis, M.D.
Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminar

Seminar Program Director's Report

The Richardson Seminar program offered twenty seminars during the 1998-1999 academic year. As usual, the topics were wide-ranging, addressing subjects such as the history of psychoanalysis, Nineteenth Century hospital design, transgender surgery and the lives of major literary and musical figures. The high quality of the formal presentations was, as always, enhanced by the lively and thoughtful discussions to which the members of the Section energetically contributed.

With this report I conclude my three-year term as Director of the Seminar program. For me it has been a richly rewarding and enlightening experience. I want to thank Dr. George Makari, Director of the Section,
for his unfailing and generous support, counsel and tolerance. By their active participation and encouragement the members of the Section have been of inestimable help, and I hereby express my appreciation for their efforts. To my successor, Dr. Craig Tomlinson, I extend my congratulations and my best wishes for his success.

Aaron H. Esman, M.D.

Research Seminar Presentations, 1998-1999

September

9 George J. Makari, M.D., Weill Medical College of Cornell University
   “The Seductions of History: Sexual Trauma in Freud’s Theory and Historiography”

23 Michael Beldoch, Ph.D., Weill Medical College of Cornell University
   “The History of ‘The Future of an Illusion’ with Implications for the Future of Psychoanalysis"

October

23
Paul Stepansky, Ph.D., Weill Medical College of Cornell University
“In Search of Middle Ground: The Psychoanalytic Reaction to Psychosurgery”

Timothy Pytell, NYU/Cooper Union
“Viktor Frankl and National Socialism”

November

Sandra Siegel, Ph.D., Cornell University,
“The Case of Oscar Wilde”

Theodore Shapiro, M.D., Weill Medical College of Cornell University
“The Long History of Negation: A Brief Review”

December

Michael Stone, M.D., Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons
“Pendulum Swings in the History of Psychiatry: From Psychological to Biological and Back Again”

Jennifer Radden, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts,
“Melancholy, Melancholia and Depression: Some Contemporary Reflections”

January

Revella Levin, Ph.D., NAAP
“John Rosen: Genius or Quack? Historical Reflections of a Former Student”

Catherine Lindenman, MSW, Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy Study Center
“Flaubert, Freud and Hysteria”

**February**

3  Charles Rosenberg, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania  
   “Popular Medicine and Mental Hygiene”

17  Cheryce Kramer, Ph.D., Wellcome Institute for the  
    History of Medicine, London  
    “Asylum Design and the Architecture of the  
    Biedermeier Soul”

**March**

3  Lawrence Friedman, M.D., Weill Medical College of  
    Cornell University  
    “What’s the Trouble with Reality?”

17  Charles Strozier, Ph.D., John Jay College,  
    “Young Man Kohut”

31  Stuart Feder, M.D., Mt. Sinai School Of Medicine  
    “The Case of Charles Ives”

**April**

14  Aaron Mishara, Ph.D., Rutgers University  
    “Ludwig Binswanger: Levels of Consciousness and  
    Schema Theory”

28  James Phillips, M.D., Yale University  
    “Heidegger, Psychiatry and Psychoanalysis”

**May**

5  Sander L. Gilman, Ph.D., University of Chicago  
    “Transgender Surgery and the Weimar Culture of  
    Psychological Transformation”
Andreas Killin, Ph.D., N.Y.U.
“Theories of Trauma in Early Nineteenth-Century German Psychiatry”

June

Aaron Esman, M.D., Weill Medical College of Cornell University
"Isaiah Berlin and Sigmund Freud"

Discussant: Robert Michels, M.D., Weill Medical College of Cornell University
Book Review: Freud, Surgery and the Surgeons

The following is a review of recently published book by History of Psychiatry Section member, Paul E. Stepansky, Ph.D., Freud, Surgery and the Surgeons, (The Analytic Press, 1999).

There are scholars and scholars with imagination, and Paul Stepansky is an outstanding example of the latter. While seeming to have written just a history of the use of the surgical metaphor in Freud's work, it turns out to be much more than that, including thoughtful commentary on much that is the center of debate in clinical psychoanalysis today. Stepansky has taken Freud's 1912 recommendation to his colleagues to "model themselves during psychoanalytic treatment on the surgeon who puts aside all his feelings, even his human sympathy..." and enlarged upon in both temporal directions. His book is a fascinating selective history of surgery, a marker of where we are now in our understanding of clinical psychoanalytic theory, and a thoughtful commentary on the direction psychoanalytic practice may take in the future.

Most of us have forgotten that surgery before the discovery of anesthesia was essentially a surface endeavor. The surgeon did not go deep into the body, but rather tried to hold things together on the surface so that the body might with its own wisdom heal itself. After the discovery of anesthesia, however, the surgeon could and did go "deep below the surface," and with such therapeutic zeal that all manner of life saving and life-threatening procedures were given society's carte blanche. "And they often penetrated in the absence of pathology, simply because penetration had finally become a surgical possibility. The naked glorification of penetration is clearest and most sinister in the realm of nineteenth century gynecology...(with)...the removal of normal ovaries (Battey's operation)...artificially inducing menopause...to control
masturbation, 'nymphomania,' depression and a host of other 'symptoms' of social dysfunction." Stepansky further describes that clitoridectomy was common in England until 1867. A period described as both the golden age of surgery and "the dark ages of operative furor," and that by the 1890's a number of North American asylums..."retained staff" gynecologists to 'Batty-ize' female inpatients as a matter of course," (pp.28-30).

But the times change (as they always do) and it is to the historian that we owe the debt of permitting us perspective. One wonders if the future historian of psychoanalysis will find something analogous (if in reverse order) in the developmental history of our clinical theory. Early, "one-person" psychoanalysis was known for its radical and sometimes ruthless cutting deep into the psyche in order to "root out" encapsulated disease. More recently the climate of psychoanalysis has become, if not exactly a psychology of "containment," than certainly one in which the surgical authority of the analyst has been modified by the interactive participation of the two parties in the psychoanalytic couple. No matter that the names we apply may differ, "classical," "interpersonal," "relational," or "inter-subjective," and no matter that we may define our work variously as "helping," "listening," "fixing," or "curing," it is only with the ultimate approval of our constituency that we will continue to be able to do what we do.

Among other benefits of Stepansky's book is a reminder of how easily we can look back in judgement with the arrogant ignorance of the zeitgeist. It is a commonplace to fault Freud for his belief in Fleiss's 'nasal-reflex theory' with its magical periodicities. Freud was emboldened to have his patient operated upon because of his belief in and trust of Fleiss. The patient did not do well: we know her as Emma Eckstein, of the favorite specimen dream of psychoanalysis, the dream of Irma's Injection, and more recently as in fact Anna Hammerschlag. What is less known is that "Fleiss was among the last great proponents of Nineteenth Century 'reflex theory'," and that his notion of nasogenital relationship was "independently arrived at by the Baltimore Laryngologist John Maynard Mackenzie in 1884...and endorsed by Krafft-Ebing at century's end," (p. 52).

Thus, Freud's complex relationship with surgery, as a student, as a student of his times, as a patient, and as a doctor "malgre-lui", makes it easy to condense the past with our own current purpose, be it idealization
or denigration. The notion of a classical "surgical" analytic technique can become a straw man with which to prop up our own beliefs. As for Stepansky, he ends his fine book with his own point of view: "it follows, then, that the demise of Freud's surgical metaphor hardly betokens the irrelevance of medicosurgical analogizing in the psychotherapeutic domain. As long as therapists and analysts lay claim to the identity of professional healers committed to a healing endeavor, they will have much to learn from medicosurgical templates of healing activity."

Michael Beldoch, Ph.D.
Research Faculty News

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Anna M. Antonovsky, Ph.D., participated in a conference on "French Theoretico-Clinical Approaches to Temporality and it's Construction in the Psychoanalytic Process" sponsored by the International Psychoanalytic Association and held in Paris in July 1998. Dr. Antonovsky also continued to be active as a Training and Supervising Analyst of the White Institute and of the Institute for Psychoanalytic Training and Research.

Ralph D. Baker, M.D., is at work on a project titled, Erotic Scholasticism and Medieval Notion of Self-fulfillment in "Le Roman de la Rose."

Michael Beldoch, Ph.D., initiated and moderated a panel on Learning Psychoanalysis, Then and Now, at Division 39 (The Division of Psychoanalysis of the American Psychological Association), in April of 1999 with panelists Theodore Shapiro, M.D., Fred Pine, Ph.D., and Ted Jacobs, M.D.

Cornelius J. Clark, M.D., continues his research on questions of authorship in Shakespeare and other aspects of Elizabethan intrigue.

Norman Dain, Ph.D., gave the Guest Lecture at the Clifford Beers Clinic and the New Haven Colony Historical Society this spring. His talk was titled, "Clifford Beers: Legacy of a New Haven Pioneer."

Katherine Dalsimer, Ph.D., is under contract with Yale University Press for her book in progress, Virginia Woolf: Portrait of the Artist as a Young Woman. She supervises trainees at Payne Whitney Clinic and the Columbia Psychoanalytic Center. She chaired a meeting this past spring in which Affiliate Scholars of the Columbia Psychoanalytic Center presented their work.

Aaron H. Esman, M.D., completed his tenure as Director, Richardson Research Seminar, History of Psychiatry Section here at Cornell. His lecture, "Isaiah Berlin and Sigmund Freud: Concord and Discord," was delivered at the Richardson Seminars this past June. In addition, he edited a volume of Adolescent Psychiatry in 1998 for the
Lawrence Friedman, M.D., continues to lecture widely. At the American Psychoanalytic Association Annual Meetings in May of 1999 he gave the introduction to Glen Gabbard's Plenary Address. In April, at the St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute, he gave a paper titled "Work and Illusion in Psychoanalysis." He sits on the editorial boards of a number of journals and is Associate Editor of the Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association. The Chicago Center for Psychoanalysis honored him with the Teacher of the Year award, and he has a work in progress on hermeneutics and psychoanalysis.

William A. Frosch is on sabbatical in London where he is researching a paper on the Castrati.

Sander L. Gilman, Ph.D., is the Henry R. Luce Distinguished Service Professor of the Liberal Arts in Human Biology at the University of Chicago. He has delivered over forty lectures worldwide over this past academic year, including the Annual Lecture at the Bosch Institute for the History of Medicine in Stuttgart, the Key Note lecture at the Jewish Body Conference in Munich, and Grand Rounds at both the University of Chicago and Cornell's Psychiatry Departments. He continues to edit a number of book series including The Cornell Studies in the History of Psychiatry.

Robert Goldstein, M.D., is researching a longer work on the relevance of evolutionary biology to contemporary clinical psychiatry and neuroscience. He edits the Annual Report for the Section.

Gerald N. Grob, Ph.D., is the Henry E. Sigerist Professor of the History of Medicine at Rutgers University.

Leonard C. Groopman, M.D., Ph.D., supervises residents in the brief therapy program at Payne Whitney Clinic.

Nathan M. Kravis, M.D., co-taught a course on Freud to undergraduates at Columbia University. He also taught in a course for psychoanalytic candidates at Columbia on ego psychology and object
relations theory, co-directed the Columbia Psychodynamic Psychotherapy Program, gave a lecture on Freud to the faculty of the "Contemporary Civilization" core curriculum course at Columbia College, and taught a course on narcissistic character to Payne Whitney residents. Dr. Kravis presented a paper, co-authored with Elizabeth Auchincloss, M.D., on "Teaching Freud to Undergraduates" at the Association for Psychoanalytic Medicine.

**Barbara Fass Leavy, Ph.D.,** continues her research on psychological theories in crime fiction.

**George J. Makari, M.D.,** is Director of the History of Psychiatry Section. This past year he was appointed Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Weill Medical College of Cornell University. He is co-editor, along with Sander Gilman, of the Cornell Studies in the History of Psychiatry. He served as research supervisor to two forth year medical students, Ari Gershon who examined "The Reception of Lithium Therapy amongst Psychoanalysts in the United States," and Kishor Malavade who wrote on the theory of mind in the works of Charles Peirce. Dr. Makari was co-instructor for a course given to Cornell psychiatry residents entitled, "Psychodynamic Models of the Mind," and lectured to psychoanalytic candidates at Columbia on the early work of Freud. He delivered a lecture in a symposium sponsored by the I.P.A. in conjunction with the Jewish Museum's, "Freud Conflict and Culture," exhibition entitled, "Totem and Taboo: or, Primal Crimes and the Psychoanalytic Movement."

**Doris B. Nagel, M.D.,** continues her research on the diagnosis and treatment of schizophrenia in the first half of the Twentieth-century in the United States.

**Louis A. Sass, Ph.D.,** continues as Professor of Clinical Psychology at Rutgers University where he received appointments as Professor in Comparative Literature and Research Affiliate at Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science. He also continued his tenure as President Division 10 (Psychology and Arts) of the American Psychological Association, and sits on the Editorial Board of the journal *Theory and Psychology.* Among the many lectures he has given over the past year
were the plenary address at the International Forum on Persons in Santa Fe, and a talk on R.D. Laing at London's Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Paul E. Stepansky, Ph.D., is Managing Director of the Analytic Press. He oversees the acquisition, development and production of numerous books and monographs in psychiatry and psychoanalysis. He has been especially involved laying the groundwork for a new multidisciplinary journal, Studies in Gender and Sexuality, which will debut in January 2000. His book, Freud, Surgery, and the Surgeons, from which two presentations were made to the History Section, was published by The Analytic Press this past April.

Craig Tomlinson, M.D., graduated from Columbia University's Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research, and joined the faculty there. He is assuming the role as Director of the Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminars.

1998-1999 Research Faculty Publications


Gilman, S.L., selected bibliography, Creating Beauty to Cure the Soul: Race and Psychology in the Shaping of Aesthetic Surgery, Durham:


Makari, G.J., "The Seductions of History: Sexual Trauma in Freud's Theory and Historiography." International Journal of Psychoanalysis,


______, Schuldberg, D. "Schizophrenia and creativity." In M. Runco and S. Pritzker (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Creativity*. New York: Wiley,
Daniel Burston, Ph.D., fellow (1986-1989) delivered a talk entitled, "Families, Phenomenology & Schizophrenia," to the Center for the Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, on November 3, 1998. Another talk, entitled "Situating Erikson: Sketches for a Book," was delivered as part of the Friday Night Lecture Series at the Austin Riggs Center on February 6, 1999. Finally, he gave a talk entitled, "Laing's Contribution to Contemporary Thought," at the Lone Mountain Conference Center, San Francisco, March 10, 1999. Daniel Burston received a Presidential Writing Grant for the summer of 1998 from Duquesne University to finish The Crucible of Experience: R.D. Laing and the Crisis of Psychotherapy. He is spending August of 1999 as the Erikson Scholar in Residence at the Austen Riggs Center in Stockbridge, MA.

Hannah S. Decker, Ph.D., fellow (1967-1970) is Professor of History at the University of Houston. She recently completed an oral history of the Houston-Galveston Psychoanalytic Institute. She is currently teaching a course entitled "The History of Evil."

John Efron, Ph.D., fellow (1988-1989) is Associate Professor of History and Jewish Studies, and Associate Director of Indiana University’s Borns Jewish Studies Program. His book, History and the German Jews: the History of an Intimate Relationship, is due to appear with Yale University Press in the spring of 2000.

Stephen Kern, Ph.D., fellow (1966-1970) received a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers to work on a book in progress, titled A Cultural History of Causality since 1830. He also delivered a number of lectures including "A Hundred Years of Simultaneity" at the Institute for Future Studies in Stockholm, Sweden.
We would like to express our warm appreciation to Mrs. Oskar Diethelm, Ms. Janet Diethelm-Peck, Dr. Michel Beldoch, Dr. Jack D. Barchas, Rosemary A. Stevens, Ph.D., Dr. John and Marjorie A. Burnham, Mrs. Jean Carlson, Ms. Linda Carlisle, Dr. Eli Einbinder, Dr. Nathan Kravis, Dr. Jacques Quen, Dr. John Loomis, Dr. George G. Reader, Mr. Frank Richardson and the DeWitt Wallace/New York Hospital Fund at the New York Community Trust for their continuing contributions far beyond the categories of membership.

In addition we give special thanks to the following Friends (and others whom we may not have remembered to name) who have given books, journals, and other gifts or volunteered their services in the past academic year.

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