

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
WESTERN RESERVE STUDIES SYMPOSIUM

## BUILDING A MEDICAL COMMUNITY IN THE WESTERN RESERVE

October 12-13 2001

Allen Memorial Medical Library  
Ford Auditorium

### IF ARCHIVISTS COULD TELL . . .

James M. Edmonson

There are several important collections held by educational and medical institutions in the Cleveland area. Researchers who have had experience using what are considered "open" collections, may not realize that there are specific restrictions attached to collections that are considered "closed" by their owner institutions. This panel will serve to highlight some of the significant aspects of local collections and to introduce the audience to the peculiarities of research in more closed archival settings, as well as collections with medical information linked to individuals. The panelists will make special mention of situations where they have had to uphold restrictions placed upon their collections.

**The Cleveland Clinic Foundation** was established in 1921 by four local physicians: Drs. George Crile, Sr., Frank E. Bunts, William E. Lower, and John Phillips. Since its inception its fundamental goals have been "better care of the sick, investigation of their problems, and further education of those who serve."

Historical and other permanently valuable documents created in association with this endeavor are located in the Archives (established 1981). In addition to corporate records, collections include papers of Irvine H. Page, M.D., papers from the Crile family, books and publications by Clinic authors, in-house publications, and a complete accounting of the Cleveland Clinic disaster of May 15, 1929, which resulted in the introduction of regulations regarding X-ray safety film in hospitals throughout the country. The Archives has a photograph collection of over 7000 images and over 2600 linear feet of records.

- Fred Lautzenheiser

#### **Dittrick Medical History Center of Case Western Reserve University**

The Archives houses both manuscripts and institutional records relating to the health sciences. Archives holdings include those of the Cleveland Medical Library Association, Woman's General Hospital, Forest City Hospital, the Cleveland Clinical Club, and the Pasteur Club. Manuscript collections include the papers of Cleveland and Western Reserve physicians, nurses, psychoanalysts, dentists, and medical historians. Notable collections are those of Otto Glasser, Harry Goldblatt and Erwin Haas, Oliver Perry Kimball, and the Bunts Family. The Robert M. Stecher collection contains Charles Darwin correspondence, rare editions, pamphlets and photographs. A large picture and diploma collection is also available.

The Archives is part of the Dittrick Medical History Center, which includes the Dittrick Museum of Medical History and an extensive collection of rare books in medicine and natural history.

- Jennifer Nieves

**The Stanley A. Ferguson Archives of University Hospitals of Cleveland** was established in 1968. Its primary function is to document the historical development of University Hospitals and the four Cleveland Hospitals from which it was initially formed: Lakeside Hospital, Babies and Children's Hospital, MacDonald Hospital for Women (Maternity Hospital), and Rainbow Hospital for Convalescent and Crippled Children. The collection is composed of over 4800 linear feet of material related to the development and operation of the University Hospitals of Cleveland (1925) and the University Hospitals Health System (1987) and its various

components from 1866 to the present. The Archives maintains extensive collections in hospital administration, nursing and medical education, focusing on the development and implementation of the New Medical Curriculum of Western Reserve University School of Medicine and its affiliated hospitals.

**- Dianne O'Malia**

**The Case Western Reserve University Archives** administers the records of CWRU and its predecessors (Western Reserve University and Case Institute of Technology). Holdings include: records of administrative and academic offices; governing boards; student, alumni, and friends organizations; and papers of faculty, trustees, and administrators. The collection includes over 10,000 linear feet of manuscripts, serial and monographic publications, theses, and audio and video tapes dating from 1826 to the present. Included in the collection are the records of the School of Medicine dating from 1843. These records include extensive documentation of the New Medical Curriculum which was developed at the School in the 1950s.

**- Dennis Harrison**

**The Archives/Library of the Western Reserve Historical Society** is the largest American history research center in northeast Ohio: it is the principal repository for material relating to the growth and development of Cleveland and northeastern Ohio. Included in its holdings are nearly 4,000 manuscript or archival collections relating to architecture, education, charity, philanthropy and social welfare, farming, immigration, law, politics, and transportation in the region.

Special features of the library include the following specialized archival programs: the African American Archives focusing on the contributions of persons of African descent in all fields of endeavor dating back to 1796; the Ethnic Archives, documenting the immigration experiences of the more than eighty groups represented in the Greater Cleveland Community; the Cleveland Jewish Archives which records the history of Jews and Judaism since the inception of the community in 1839; the Ohio Labor History Archives that emphasize the role of unions in the development of the state; the Urban Archives that encompass civic and cultural affairs as well as religions and business activities of the city; the Northeast Ohio Lesbian and Gay Archives which preserve the records relating to gay and lesbian persons and organizations in the area; the Philanthropic Archives, collecting the papers and records of persons and organizations involved in philanthropy and charitable activities; and the Irish American Archives, which gathers materials on this large and under-documented population. Additionally, the library holds over 300 collections of public government records from counties, municipalities, and regional authorities, in compliance with the Ohio Records Law under the authority of the Ohio State Archives.

These primary collections are supported by research collections including books, newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, photographs, and audio and visual recordings that provide additional information and context. Nearly 135,000 such items are or will be included in the library's online catalog, accessible at [www.wrhs.org](http://www.wrhs.org).

**- Michael J. McCormick**