Richard Ludueña to deliver annual dinner presentation

In their struggle to legitimize themselves, royal families in Europe have relied on in-breeding to ensure the heir to the throne is of noble origin on both sides. In other parts of the world, royal families have practiced incest for the same purpose and also as a way to establish their divinity. The genetic cost for these practices has been high, producing rulers like the Spanish Hapsburg Charles II, developmentally delayed with a jaw so prognathous he could not chew his food, or the Pharaoh Tutankhamen who suffered from a club foot and an inability to procreate. It is ironic, but not surprising, that these individuals marked the ends of their dynasties.

Richard Ludueña, Ph.D., Professor of Biochemistry in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, will deliver the address at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library, November 7, 2012. Dr. Ludueña will discuss incest and inbreeding in the Spanish, Egyptian and Inca royal families, exploring why in-breeding and/or incest persisted in these families.

The Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library invite all those interested in the history of medicine to an intriguing presentation and an enjoyable evening of good food and conversation. Please RSVP, including requests for scholarship assistance, by November 1, 2012 to Susan Hunnicutt, Special Projects Librarian: hunnicutt@uthscsa.edu.

42nd ANNUAL MEETING
Dinner and Presentation
“The Good, The Bad and the Ugly: Inbreeding and Incest in Royal Families”

Richard Luduena, Ph.D., Distinguished Teaching Professor

Wednesday, November 7, 2012
Cash bar: 6:30 p.m. Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Appetizer, entrée, dessert, coffee or tea

Doubletree Hotel 37 NE Loop 410 at McCullough
Cost: $55/person; $30 for students. Student fee includes membership in the Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library. Student scholarships are available on request. Advanced registration is required.

Please RSVP by November 1, 2012—A reservation form is enclosed.

The increased price of this year’s dinner reflects increased costs for the event.
Upcoming events*

The Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library Noon Lecture Series
The Noon Lecture Series provides opportunities for informal learning and conversation in the Howe Conference Room on the 5th floor of the Briscoe Library. Everyone is invited. Please feel free to bring your lunch.

In September Gregory M. Anstead, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Medicine and Immunosuppression Clinic, South Texas Veterans Health Care System and Assistant Professor, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, spoke on the topic, Death Delivered on Gossamer Wings: the Resurgence of West Nile Virus Encephalitis in Texas, 2012.

Upcoming lectures include:

October 25 - Cholera: Ancient Plague, Current Scourge
George Crawford, M.D., M.A.C.P., Internal Medicine Program Director, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio will be the speaker.

November 8 - Apocalypse Cow- The Strange Rise and Fortunate Decline of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
Gregory M. Anstead, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Medicine and Immunosuppression Clinic, South Texas Veterans Health Care System and Assistant Professor, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio will be the speaker.

“And There’s the Humor of It”: Shakespeare and the Four Humors
Beginning February 11, 2013, the Briscoe Library Special Collections will host the National Library of Medicine’s traveling exhibit, “And there’s the humor of it: Shakespeare and the four humors.”

William Shakespeare (1564–1616) created characters that are among the richest and most humanly recognizable in all of literature. Yet Shakespeare understood human personality in the terms available to his age—that of the now-discarded theory of the four bodily humors—blood, bile, melancholy, and phlegm. These four humors were thought to define peoples’ physical and mental health, and to determine their personalities as well.

The exhibit will open on the evening of February 11 with a talk by Mark Bayer, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in the Department of English at UTSA. It will remain on display through March 22, 2013.

*For more information about history of medicine events, contact Susan Hunnicutt, Special Projects Librarian: Hunnicutt@uthscsa.edu.
The J. Bradley Aust Surgical Society voted at their annual meeting in June to underwrite in full the purchase by the Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library of first edition volumes of *The Principles of Surgery* (1801, 1806, 1808) by Scottish anatomist John Bell. The books are a memorial for the late J. Bradley Aust, M.D., M.S., Ph.D. Dr. Aust was the founding chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center and served a term as President of the Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library.

John Bell, along with Pierre-Joseph Desault and John Hunter, is considered a founder of modern surgery of the vascular system. He was the first to ligate or tie the gluteal artery.

*The Principles of Surgery* begins with "A Short Preliminary Discourse on the Education and Duties of a Surgeon": "I am now entering, Gentleman, upon a course of Surgery, which will be of little service to you, unless I lead you onwards by gradual steps from theory to practice; from the common principles of Surgery, and the most ordinary duties of the Surgeon, to those important operations which it is sometimes our duty to perform..."

Because of his belief that the artist and the anatomist have essentially different interests in carrying out their work, Bell illustrated his books in his own hand.

The three volumes of *The Principles of Surgery* are available for examination in the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library by appointment. To schedule an appointment, contact Susan Hunnicutt, hunnicutt@uthscsa.edu or Anne Comeaux, comeaux@uthscsa.edu.

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**Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library**

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Susan Hunnicutt, M.A., M.L.I.S, Special Projects Librarian
Anne Comeaux, M.L.S., Assistant Library Director for Special Collections
Mellisa DeThorne, Special Collections Library Assistant
Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library
Nominees to the Executive Board for 2012-2013

The business meeting of the Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library will take place at the Annual Dinner and Presentation on the evening of Wednesday, November 7. That evening, two openings on the Executive Board will be filled: one for Vice-President/President Elect, and one for Member-at-Large. Information about the nominees for these positions can be found below.

Charleen M. Moore, Ph.D., is the nominee for Vice President/President-Elect

Dr. Moore is a Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Department of Cellular and Structural Biology, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, where she teaches gross anatomy and medical genetics. She teaches in the first year gross anatomy course for medical and physician assistant students and is co-director of a medical genetics course for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

Dr. Moore also directs a first year course in the history of anatomy for medical and graduate students and has created an elective for fourth year medical students, History of Anatomy In Situ, that includes a trip to Italy (Padua, Bologna, and Florence) to visit the oldest extant medical schools and anatomical dissecting theaters where dissection was revived during the Renaissance. She instituted a dissection workshop at the UT Health Science Center for Italian medical students from the Universities of Bologna and Rome. The workshop provides students with the opportunity to gain experience in dissection, something that is not currently available to them in their home institution.

Dr. Moore has also offered Art and Anatomy Workshops for medical and art students using plastinated specimens. She has given numerous lectures related to National Library of Medicine traveling exhibits. Related to her interest in the history of medicine, Dr. Moore has published articles on the intersection of art, anatomy and religion and on visitor responses to the Body Worlds exhibit.

If elected, this will be Dr. Moore’s second term as Vice-President/President elect. She served previously from 2004-2006, and has been an active member of the Executive Board since that time.

Eva Galvan, MS-2, is the nominee for Member-at-Large

Eva Galvan, originally from Houston, is a second year student in the School of Medicine. She graduated from Yale University in 2011 with a B.A. in History of Science & Medicine as well as a B.S. in Molecular, Cellular, & Developmental Biology.

Eva has a passion for the history of medicine. In high school she wrote a term paper about the efforts of William C. Gorgas to eradicate mosquitoes to control the spread of malaria and yellow fever during the building of the Panama Canal. Her senior essay in college explored the development of the oil industry in Venezuela during the early 20th century in relation to the extent to which different government regimes improved public health and infrastructure.
Please consider financial support of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library

The P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library is a rare treasure that contributes to the cultural influence of San Antonio. The library, which is named after Dr. Pat Ireland Nixon, San Antonio physician and historian, contains a world class collection of antiquarian and historical texts dating from the 15th to the early 20th century.

Originally donated to the UT Health Science Center in the early 1970s by the Bexar County Medical Society, the core collection has expanded to contain close to 5000 volumes of treasured medical texts, including important works by Vesalius (*De Humani Corporis Fabrica* – 1543), Albinus (*Tables of the Skeleton and Muscles of the Human Body* – 1749), Celsus (*De Medicina* – 1481), Avicenna (*The Canon of Medicine* – 1486), Burton (*Anatomy of Melancholy* – 1632), and Hooke (*Micrographia* – 1667).

In order to keep the collection growing, membership dues for the Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library, as well as donations, are used to support book acquisitions. Antiquarian texts often cost in the thousands of dollars so it can be difficult to purchase books that will enhance the collection. We encourage supporters of the library to consider a monetary contribution toward the purchase of a book or books for the collection. Donations can be made as a memorial or tribute to a family member, colleague, or friend and any book purchased with your donation will be a lasting gift to this important historical collection. Donations to the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library can now be made online by going to: https://makelivesbetter.uthscsa.edu/SSLPage.aspx?pid=513. On this page, under “Designation,” select P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library and your contribution will be used to support the historical collection.

For further information about making a donation or purchasing a specific book needed for the collection, contact Anne Comeaux, Assistant Library Director for Special Collections, 567-2428, or by email to Comeaux@uthscsa.edu.

Rajia Tobia, Executive Director of Libraries

Special Collections staff work to enhance preservation

Following recommendations from Rebecca Elder, a preservation specialist hired through a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, Special Collections staff have completed a number of preservation projects this year, including:

- Tracking environmental conditions and working with Facilities Management to enhance the temperature and humidity in the various storage areas
- Shifting books in the Nixon library to lessen crowding and allow placement of book ends to prevent leaning books and preserve spines and book caps
- Moving all very small books to a separate shelving area in the Nixon Library to prevent warping of larger books shelved next to them
- Boxing many fragile materials and all vellum bindings to provide support
- Tightening security for items being used by researchers by redesigning forms to collect user information, adopting stricter policies on materials than can be brought into the reading room, and installing lockers to store user personal items.

Some recommended preservation projects are on hold pending availability of funds and/or staff.

Anne Comeaux, Assistant Library Director for Special Collections
P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library: Looking back on 2011-2012

In August 2011, a permanent display of antique medical instruments was installed outside the administrative offices on the 3rd floor of the Briscoe Library. The exhibit features 17th and 18th century instruments donated by the Bexar County Medical Society and individuals.

In October 2011 Dr. Charleen M. Moore, Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Health Science Center’s Department of Cellular and Structural Biology, gave a presentation on “Anatomists and Their Art” as part of the Noon Lecture Series. Her lecture, which featured many of the most important works in the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library, can be viewed online at http://library.uthscsa.edu/2012/08/anatomists-and-their-art/.

Two Cups of Coffee, a series of fifteen photos documenting a medical service experience in Ethiopia, was on display in the Briscoe Library Information Commons beginning in October 2011. The exhibit coincided with the UT Health Science Center’s International Education Week activities.

An exhibit documenting the medical response to Hurricane Beulah, one of the most significant storms ever to make landfall in Texas, was on display in the Briscoe Library in October and November 2011. The exhibit was produced by the staff of the University of Texas Health Science Center’s Ramirez Library in Harlingen.

Connective Tissue, the literary magazine of the Center for Medical Humanities & Ethics, was featured in an exhibit in the School of Medicine’s lecture hall commons in September and October 2011.

The Medical Response to the Haiti Earthquake, an exhibit based on personal photographs of Dr. Ruth Berggren, the director of the Center for Medical Humanities & Ethics, was on display in the School of Medicine’s lecture hall commons in November and December 2011.

Chocolate: Not Just Another Love Story was on display in the lecture hall commons in February and March 2012. The exhibit explored the social and cultural history of chocolate as well as current research into the therapeutic benefits of theobroma cacao.

Ten students from the School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences visited the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library on the evening of Tuesday, April 24, 2012 to view more than 40 items from the library’s rare book collection. The visit was the conclusion of the School of Medicine’s enrichment elective, ELEC 5022, and the graduate school’s CSBL 5015. The class, which was taught by Dr. Charleen M. Moore of the Department of Cellular and Structural Biology, covered the history of anatomy from ancient times through the 19th century.

Applied Neuroanatomy was the subject of an exhibit that was mounted in the lecture hall commons from July through September 2012. The exhibit documented a student– lead elective to support neuroanatomy learning in the School of Medicine.

Faces of Hope, an exhibit of photographs by San Antonio portrait photographer Marie Langmore, was on display in the Briscoe Library Information Commons throughout late spring and summer of 2012. The exhibit featured photos taken at Haven for Hope, the city’s homeless shelter.

Susan Hunnicutt, Special Projects Librarian
Hurricane Beulah exhibit makes many stops as it travels through South Texas

An exhibit documenting the resourcefulness of community and health professionals in the aftermath of Hurricane Beulah recently traveled to several locations throughout South Texas, including areas where memories of the hurricane and its aftermath were still fresh in the minds of those who visited the exhibit. The photos included in the exhibit were taken by George Tuley, a Rio Grande City teacher, who would later go on to a 39-year career as a photojournalist at the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. The photographs document the transformation of a high school in Fort Ringgold into a packaged disaster hospital during the storm, which made landfall near the mouth of the Rio Grande River on September 20, 1967.

In addition to being displayed at the Ramirez Library in Harlingen, the exhibit has traveled to Operation Lone Star in Rio Grande City (2011) and Brownsville (2012). It made a month-long stop at Rio Grande City Public Library where a reception was held to honor the work of Dr. Ramirez and volunteers who helped flood victims following the hurricane. The exhibit has been displayed at the Laredo Public Library, the Briscoe Library at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, the Killam Library at Texas A&M International, the University of Texas Health Science Center Regional Campus Library in Laredo and the University of Texas Pan American Library.

The full collection of Hurricane Beulah photographs from the Ramirez Collection can be viewed online at http://bit.ly/beulahphotos. For more information, contact Graciela Reyna, Assistant Director, Mario E. Ramirez, M.D. Library at (956) 365-8850 or reynag@uthscsa.edu.

Kathy Carter, Librarian at the Ramirez Library in Harlingen

University Archives—Highlights of an active year

A gift from Drs. Virginia and Charles Bowden has resulted in 2011-2012 being an extremely busy year for the University Archives, as staff worked to enhance access for rare and archival materials. Medical school yearbooks and commencement exercises for the university were digitized for addition to the Digital Archives. Yearbooks are currently available online with other historical materials soon to follow.

Three student interns worked to organize and digitize yellow, crumbling newspaper clippings to preserve the content and to allow access by keyword search. Interns also transcribed 14 oral histories from original faculty that had been converted to digital format. They created blog entries in the Treasures of the P. I. Nixon Library Blog (http://library.uthscsa.edu/category/treasures/) to highlight interesting books and medical artifacts in the collections.

Nine new finding aids were completed and sent to the Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO) website to enhance access by researchers. TARO allows researchers to search for archival materials throughout Texas.

One result of making finding aids from the University Archives available on TARO was the request by the Bob Bullock Texas History Museum to borrow one of the student nursing uniforms from the 1920’s found in the Texas Nurses Association District 8 – Arvelia Bentley Vowell History Collection. The uniform will appear in an exhibit, Women Shaping Texas. Health Science Center finding aids available through TARO can be found at: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_hscsa1.html.

Anne Comeaux, Assistant Library Director for Special Collections
Membership Roster for 2011-2012

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Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library: Become a member

The Friends of the P.I. Nixon Medical Historical Library provides a forum for individuals who are interested in the history of the health sciences. The Friends have a deep appreciation for the Nixon library’s remarkable rare book collection and have joined together to see that the special collections are preserved, augmented and introduced to those who have not yet discovered them. The society meets periodically throughout the year for lectures, films and a dinner-presentation in November.

Membership is open to everyone! Dues are $10/year for students, $25 for individual members and $50 for patrons. If you are interested in joining or would like to know more, please contact Susan Hunnicutt, Special Projects Librarian, at 567-2406 or hunnicutt@uthscsa.edu.