



AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY

Report of the Executive Director for 2018

by Gregory J. Higby

This year we continue with a webinar format for our Annual Business Meeting. After a few years of experimentation, we have found the webinar/teleconference mode to work well and we are open to ideas to increase member participation.

Traditionally, I begin with the Mission Statement of the Institute. This year, the AIHP board adopted a new Statement: “Advancing knowledge and understanding of the history of pharmacy and medicines.” As in the past, we invite all interested to join in our efforts.

Publications

1. Three issues of *Pharmacy in History* have been published since the last Executive Director’s report and another issue is in press. The renewed flow of papers for consideration that occurred during 2017 continued in 2018. As always, we welcome submissions and are primed to work with new authors to bring their research to print. An important transition will soon take place as Prof. Lucas Richert takes over as Editor-in-Chief of *Pharmacy in History*.

As a reminder, JSTOR provides downloadable articles on demand for \$10 (\$6 to AIHP; \$4 to JSTOR). In addition, we give regular members the opportunity to access back issues of PH via JSTOR for a fee of \$10 a year. (Contributing members may receive an access code by providing the AIHP office with their email address.) Please note that *PH* is available to certain libraries that purchase their History & Science packages. Most significantly, our participation in JSTOR yielded approximately \$3,000 in royalties last fiscal year.

2. Two issues of the *A.I.H.P. Notes* (no. 108 and 109) were produced and distributed to the membership. A new member newsletter succeeding *A.I.H.P. Notes*, called *Scripts*, was inaugurated in conjunction with an online version, *e-Scripts*.

3. The 2019 AIHP calendar is in press and will soon arrive at the mailboxes of members. The calendar features illustrations connected with the theme of the upcoming 44th International Congress for the History of Pharmacy, “The Pharmacist and Quality Medicines.”

Web

Please become a friend of AIHP on Facebook! In addition to managing our own Facebook page, the Executive Director serves as an administrator of the Facebook page of the International Society for the History of Pharmacy.

Having completed a major upgrade of the Institute's website (www.aihp.org) in 2017, we devoted time and effort during 2018 to using our new platform to better communicate with our members and supporters. We are now frequently posting articles with news about the Institute's work and activities and developments of interest in the field of the history of pharmacy. We have also added a Calendar of Events to track meetings and conferences that may be of interest to our members. We encourage members to check our webpage regularly to keep abreast of the latest developments.

Speaking of digitizing, the Executive Director continues to serve on the Advisory Board to the Medical Heritage Library project, which aims to digitize all health science and professional literature published in the US before 1900.

Representation at Historical Meetings

In March 2018, I represented the Institute at the Annual Meeting of the American Pharmacists Association in Nashville. In May 2018 I attended the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine in Los Angeles on behalf of AIHP. In July, I traveled to Boston and represented AIHP at the annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, specifically participating in events sponsored by the History of Pharmacy Special Interest Group (HoPSIG).

Outreach Activities

In May I gave an invited lecture to the Milwaukee Veteran Pharmacists Association on early efforts to organize pharmacists in Wisconsin.

In May I served on the University of Chicago doctoral committee of Dr. Richard Del Rio.

Future Outreach

In recent months, the Madison office has communicated with staff at the American Pharmacists Association about possible co-sponsored events at the 2019 APhA Annual Meeting in Seattle.

An article on teaching the history of pharmacy in the United States generated by the AIHP Historical Studies Committee has been published online in the *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*. Special thanks go out to John Colaizzi, David Baker, and all the other members of the committee.

As always, the Madison office is working with the History of Pharmacy SIG of AACP on next year's programming for the July meeting in Boston.

The AIHP staff, led by Program Manager Beth Fisher, is working on new exhibits in Rennebohm Hall, the home of AIHP.

International Congress 4-9 September 2019

Of utmost significance is the selection of the date and venue for the 44th International Congress for the History of Pharmacy. It will take place September 5 – 8, 2019, at the Capital Hilton in Washington, DC. Plan to attend this gathering of pharmacists and historians from around the globe!

Awards and Grants

Seventeen certificates were awarded this year to students who completed a project or some other achievement in the history of pharmacy at schools of pharmacy across the USA.

Miscellany

1. The Executive Director represented the Institute on the UW-Madison search committee charged with selecting a new George Urdang Chair in the History of Pharmacy. (Prof. Lucas Richert has accepted this position.)
2. The Institute's Historical Studies Committee, ably chaired by Prof. David Baker, is assembling slide sets for lectures that correspond to the "Guidelines to Meet ACPE History of Pharmacy Education Accreditation Standard" that can be found at aihp.org.
3. In June, Executive Director Higby and Wisconsin State Archivist Matthew Blessing met to discuss the future use of the Hollister Fund of the Wisconsin Historical Society.
4. Through the efforts of Prof. David Baker, a student group at Western New England University College of Pharmacy affiliated with the Institute continues to thrive.
5. Thanks go out to Dennis Worthen for his contribution of small "time capsule" history

pieces for state pharmacy journals via the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations.

UW-Madison and the School of Pharmacy

Lastly, I want to briefly describe some of my involvement with the UW School of Pharmacy. As a senior lecturer at UW I teach a 2-hour elective survey course on the History of Pharmacy attended by about 30 students. I also deliver three lectures annually in required courses – one a general history of pharmacy lecture, another more focused lecture on the socialization of American pharmacists since colonial times, and lastly, a lecture on changing roles of pharmacist. In addition to teaching, I continue to serve on committees including the Health Sciences Library committee and the School of Pharmacy's Awards and Citations committee. Informally, I act as the curator of the Kremers Reference Files as well as other artifact collections housed in the School of Pharmacy.

Appreciation

I wish to thank the Institute staff, Beth Fisher and Greg Bond for their dedication to the mission of the Institute. Dennis Birke, the Executive Director designate, has demonstrated his solid administrative talents in 2018 and I thank him for the focus and enthusiasm he has brought to his duties.

Special thanks go out to all the members of the AIHP Board of Directors and to various committee members for their efforts throughout the year. The members of the Historical Studies Committee deserve special thanks, including chair David Baker. Incoming board members John Grabenstein and Cathy Taglieri have brought new energy and organizational insights to AIHP, which we appreciate greatly. And I must thank President William Zellmer for his firm hand on the tiller as we navigated this transitional year.

As always, thanks go out to the membership of AIHP for their support and interest.

Here at the School of Pharmacy, the mission of the Institute has been helped by the efforts of David Mott and Kristen Huset of the Social and Administrative Sciences Division. Lastly, I extend my appreciation to Dean Swanson and the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy for their hospitality and support.

Valedictory

In September 1978 I began working as a project assistant for Prof. Glenn Sonnedeker. He

handed me a box of slides, a stack of pink index cards, and instructed me how to code them according to the Kremers Reference Files classification scheme. Forty years later, I am preparing to step down as Executive Director and pick up where I left off, working with the unique collections that make the Institute a special place for pharmacists and historians alike. I am very grateful to the Institute for giving me a professional home these many years and I look forward to useful years ahead exploring and serving the fascinating field of pharmacy history.

The Urdang Aim

In keeping with tradition, I once again close with the inspiring words of our founding director, George Urdang:

The aim of the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy is to equip pharmacists for citizenship in the world of intellectual and moral responsibility by making them familiar with the non technical aspects and humanistic ramifications of the profession, and to do pharmacy's share in the cooperative endeavor for making the historical record of world civilization as complete as possible.