



# The Remedy

Fall 2010

Volume 1, Number 1

Greetings SAHMS members!

Mike Flannery

(President 2010-2012)

University of Alabama, Birmingham

As your current President, I would like to say what an honor it is to lead such a diverse group. SAHMS comprises a wide range (and indeed wide ranging) body of students, professional historians, philosophers, literary scholars, and clinicians. My own background is in the history of pharmacy and pharmaco-therapeutics, but I largely defy classification. With a masters in history and a masters in library science I am in some measure “that librarian” around the former and “that historian” around the latter. One thing I AM consistently is interest in the history of the healthcare sciences and the history of science generally. Therefore, you are all colleagues and kindred spirits.

It has been my good fortune to watch SAHMS grow over the years. I was absent at the inaugural meeting by our founding mother, Dr. Margaret Barnett. (More on Dr. Barnett on page 3.) That meeting was held on the campus of Southern Miss in Hattiesburg, 1998. Since then I've attended every meeting (for summary of past meetings go to our Web site: [http://www.sahms.net/HTML/Past\\_conferences.htm](http://www.sahms.net/HTML/Past_conferences.htm).)

From meetings ranging from a mere 30 to 50 attendees to meetings at 100 or more, SAHMS has developed into a unique regional body serving a constituency devoted to the history of medicine and science. I am indeed looking forward to our meeting in Memphis hosted by the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Library. Richard Nollan, our local arrangements chair, has signed a contract with the Peabody Hotel—that's right, ducks and all!—for March 4 and 5, 2011.

One of my principle concerns is developing leadership within SAHMS. In order for this organization to work and work well we need a pool of individuals ready and willing to serve in a range of capacities. Always of concern is finding appropriate meeting sites. Thus far we have been quite fortunate to hold very successful meetings throughout the South, but there are areas we have not met and perhaps could. Any of you

interested in serving as local arrangements chair, please let me know. Having hosted SAHMS meetings twice (the second annual meeting in 2000 and the eleventh in 2009), I think I can say with some confidence that there are at least 6 good reasons for hosting a SAHMS meeting:

- 1) Such a meeting brings a range of scholars (including grad students) to your campus, thus raising the profile of the institution within the scholarly community.
- 2) Such a meeting can serve to highlight your own special scholars or clinicians interested in history.
- 3) Such a meeting can serve as an opportunity to engage your own faculty in the history of medicine/science (many local faculty put in paper proposals to our program chair when the meeting is held on their campus).
- 4) Such a meeting can give you an opportunity to involve a particular faculty member already committed to supporting history by perhaps inviting him/her to give a lecture at the banquet (often, but not necessarily on a topic of local interest).
- 5) The meeting is not huge (from a minimum of 50 to maximum of 150 can be expected) and the meeting itself usually transpires over a 2 and a half-day period (typically an evening welcoming reception on Thursday, sessions on Friday with an evening banquet, Saturday sessions with a closing reception [optional]).
- 6) SAHMS need not involve any out-of-pocket expenses. The meeting is designed to be self-supporting through setting recovery cost registration fees; the only expenditure from your standpoint would be staff time in planning the local arrangements. We can provide about \$1,000 seed money for any up-front fees such as deposits, etc.

I hope you will give this serious consideration, since we are looking for future meeting locations. This, of course, hardly exhausts the leadership positions necessary to make a vibrant and functioning professional society like ours. If you're interested in serving SAHMS in some

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form, please e-mail me at [flannery@uab.edu](mailto:flannery@uab.edu) and we can discuss this more.

While we are always in need of new leadership, I would be worse than remiss if I didn't point out some key individuals who have made SAHMS functional. First, my heartfelt thanks goes out to immediate past-president Wendy Turner who now serves as our publications chair. Her energy and commitment to this organization can only be described as indefatigable. Also, my gratitude is extended to Bob Nesbitt our Secretary/Treasurer who keeps us IRS compliant not to mention serves as the institutional memory for SAHMS as secretary. Without these two individuals SAHMS would not be the growing regional body that it is. Their consistent and long-term support has been indispensable to the sustainability of SAHMS. John Erlen too has left no stone unturned in developing outreach and is largely responsible for the highly successful meeting last March in Louisville. Last but not least is Mary Gibson who served as program chair for the past two years. Many others have contributed to the success of SAHMS, and to all of you my undying gratitude.

I am looking forward to our upcoming meeting in Memphis hosted by Richard Nollan at the University of Tennessee Health Center Library.



## Student Award Winners 2010 Congratulations!!!

E. A. Driggers  
Ph.D. candidate, History  
University of South Carolina

Simon Hosken  
Ph.D. candidate  
Arkansas State University

Drew Lee, B.S.  
MS2  
Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine

Nena Patterson,  
Ph.D. candidate, Nursing  
University of Virginia

Those interested, or who know of someone who might be interested, please apply for our student travel awards. Each year SAHMS funds one or more students. Graduate students or graduating seniors headed to graduate school in the history of science or medicine may apply. You need a letter explaining interest in SAHMS and your field of study, a letter of introduction

from a sponsor, and to send in your abstract and other materials for the conference early. Good luck!

## Call for Papers 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of SAHMS

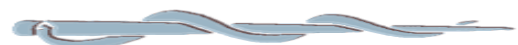
The Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science (SAHMS) invites paper proposals for its thirteenth annual meeting on March 4-5, 2011, at the famous Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee, sponsored by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center Library.

SAHMS welcomes papers on the history of medicine and science, broadly construed to encompass historical, literary, anthropological, philosophical and sociological approaches to health care and science including race, disabilities and gender studies. Participants may propose individual papers or panels of several papers on a particular theme.

Each presenter is limited to 20 minutes, with additional time for questions and discussion. Please do not submit papers that have already been published, presented or scheduled for presentation at another meeting. All participants are responsible for their own travel expenses and must pay registration costs in advance of the meeting. Student travel awards are available each year; for more information, contact SAHMS President Michael Flannery at [flannery@uab.edu](mailto:flannery@uab.edu).

To submit proposals, please visit the online submission site at <http://library.uthsc.edu/sahms>. Required elements for the online proposals include Title, Purpose Statement, Rationale and Significance, Methodology, Sources, Findings & Conclusions, and Three Learning Objectives. For questions or problems with the submission site, contact Richard Nollan ([rnollan@uthsc.edu](mailto:rnollan@uthsc.edu)) or Lisa Pruitt ([lp Pruitt@mtsu.edu](mailto:lp Pruitt@mtsu.edu)).

Deadline: September 30, 2010



## A Brief word on L. Margaret Barnett: Our Founder

Wendy J. Turner  
Immediate Past-President, SAHMS

I really feel as though Maarten Ultee or Mike Flannery or even Bob Nesbit should be writing this. They all know Margaret better than I. Yet, in many ways she mentored me, teaching through her actions of how a good manager of an organization should support the group. I learned much from her of how and why organizations, like SAHMS, are important to scholars and students.

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And, I learned how to be gracious in all situations; one of the many reasons we all enjoy the company of Margaret.

Margaret Barnett founded the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science in 1998, which met for the first time in Hattiesburg, MS. The first meeting was modest and there she enlisted Maarten Ultee to help run the seemingly popular group. At the second meeting, she enlisted Mike Flannery and she had the first "executive board." Later, others became involved: John Erlen, Robert Nesbit, and even later, me.

She taught at the University of Southern Mississippi and retired in 2007, having seen the organization grow from a few to 100 strong.


Margaret has relocated for her retirement to Australia, where she enjoys visiting with her family. We wish her the best in her new home.



## Call for Publications!

We would like to run a few articles per issue of the newsletter as well as your abstracts from the conference. If you have something you think our membership would be interested to learn, please send it our way. All time-periods and subject areas are open in the history of medicine and science. We are particularly interesting in topics that would have broad appeal to both professors and scholars.

The Remedy will come out twice a year, Fall and Spring. It is an on-line publication for the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science. Authors will retain copy write of their work, but The Remedy would like to have original research only submitted. If you are interested in publishing in The Remedy, or want clarification or to discuss ideas, please contact Dr. Wendy J. Turner, editor, at [wturner@aug.edu](mailto:wturner@aug.edu).



## The Supercourse: Its Role in the History of Medicine and Science

Jonathon Erlen  
University of Pittsburgh  
SAHMS Outreach & Membership Chair

The Supercourse is a global repository of power point presentations on public health and preventive health care that targets educators and students around the world. Based out of the great electronic library in Alexandria, Egypt and funded by the government of Switzerland, the Supercourse was created by Professor Ronald Laporte of the Graduate School of Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh. This ongoing educational

project has grown to include free web based lectures presented by over 58,000 scholars representing 174 countries. Currently the Supercourse contains nearly 50,000 power point presentations in 26 languages. The oversight committee of the Supercourse who control quality control of these presentations include nine former Nobel Prize winners, a former United States Surgeon General, and sixty-one members of the Institute of Medicine. The lectures in the Supercourse are available for free either on the internet or as free CD's. The Supercourse web page has received over seventy-five million hits this past year. You can view this website at:

<http://www.bibalex.org/supercourse/>

One of the growing components of the Supercourse is the increasing number of power point presentations on history of medicine/public health/science topics. The Supercourse is actively searching for top quality scholars who are willing to share their scholarship with the world by providing their presentations through the Supercourse. You can view this part of the Supercourse at:

<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/History/history.htm>

Working with the History of Science Society, the American Association for the History of Medicine, and other national and international history of medicine, science, and technology societies the Supercourse hopes to add a wide variety of power point presentations on various topics within the broad scope of the history of medicine and science to those already available through the Supercourse. If you are interested in this effort to provide free history of medicine and science annotated power point presentations to scholars and students world wide contact Dr. Jonathon Erlen at [erlen@pitt.edu](mailto:erlen@pitt.edu) or 412-6488927 for more information on how to get involved in spreading the message of the history of medicine and science to a world-wide audience.



## Current Officers & Board Members

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[wturner@aug.edu](mailto:wturner@aug.edu)