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43rd Annual Lecture Update

The 2022 Annual Reynolds-Finley Historical Lecture has been rescheduled for August 5 at 4pm. Bruce R. Korf, MD, PhD, will present “UAB Genomic Medicine” in UAB Volker Hall Lecture Hall E, 1670 University Boulevard, Birmingham, Alabama. A reception will follow the lecture. This event will also be streamed live via Zoom. A link will be provided on the event’s webpage.

Additional information about this event and podcasts of past lectures are available at library.uab.edu/special-collections/lecture-series.
Congratulations to Stefanie Crumpton on Her Retirement!

The 16th of December 1996, when Stefanie Babinsack became the Curator of the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, was an exciting day at UAB. Since that day over 25 years ago, Stefanie has dedicated her time, knowledge and skills to the preservation and promotion of the history of the health sciences, and has greatly contributed to both her profession and the UAB community in countless ways.

Throughout her career, she has been active in many professional organizations, including serving as the President of the Alabama Museums Association (2006-2009; 2010-2011), and the Co-President of the Librarians, Archivists and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences (LAMPHHS) and the Archivist and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) in 2020.

Stefanie contributed a number of publications and conference presentations, including “Experiencing the History of Medicine,” “Ultra Modern Resources Managing Bygone Collections,” “Designing a State Museums Association Website,” and others. As an established scholar, Stefanie has given much to support and progress her field of study.

During her time at UAB, she created the first professional catalog for the museum, and accessioned and cataloged almost 16,000 objects, including items donated since the 1940s, prior to the museum’s creation.

Stefanie curated and installed numerous temporary and traveling exhibits to feature various aspects of the history of the health sciences in the museum gallery spaces, the School of Medicine Dean’s Office, elsewhere around the UAB campus, and beyond. In 2008, she began working with the UAB Vision Science Research Center – Outreach Education Module and the UAB School of Optometry on creating the Helen Keller Art Show, which exhibited the artwork of children and youth with sensory impairments. Since 2001, she has provided UAB medical students the opportunity to exhibit their art annually at the School of Medicine Art Show.

Stefanie greatly served UAB Libraries, and specifically, UAB Historical Collections. She provided instruction to countless students over the years, hosted research visits for museum patrons and tours for visitors, and built lasting relationships with Historical Collections supporters. Since 1998, she has been the designer and managing-editor of the UAB Historical Collections newsletter, Treasures, which promotes departmental news, events, and collections.

Above all, Stefanie Rookis Crumpton has furthered the preservation and understanding of the history of the health sciences for posterity, has cemented the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences as an important pillar of UAB, and has disproven the old adage that “all good things must come to an end” as her lasting impact will continue for both her profession and her community. Many thanks and best wishes to Stefanie Rookis Crumpton as she steps into this new and exciting life chapter!
**Plans for a New Gallery Space**

The UAB Libraries are undertaking fundraising efforts to create a Historical Collections Gallery to showcase, promote, and celebrate the richness and depth of the UAB Historical Collections, and to champion their educational, research, and scholarly applications.

Currently, the Historical Collections units -- Reynolds-Finley Historical Library, Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, and University Archives -- have limited options to promote their materials in physical exhibitions in a way that does the collections their due justice and underscores their value and impact. The gallery, which will be centrally located on the 2nd floor of the Lister Hill Library, would provide such a space.

The gallery exhibitions will be connected to programming in order to reinforce the educational and outreach aspects of the gallery. Exhibitions will be complemented by events, curricular developments, and collaborative projects and enriched by curators’ guided tours, podcasts, audio guides, and other means to offer a dynamic, multimodal, and engaging experience.

The libraries are working with the Office of Advancement to raise $750,000, which is the projected cost of the gallery infrastructure and technology. Please help us promote and support this transformative project that will bring the invaluable historical collections to the next level. For more information, please contact Lisa R. Pritchett, Senior Director of Development, Office of Advancement (lrpritch@uab.edu, 205.934.7799).

**Search for the New Curator of the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences**

With Stefanie Crumpton’s retirement, we are searching for a new Curator of the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences. We hope to have this position filled by the fall of 2022. Updates to follow.

**Highlights from the Collection**

*McCallum Presidential Records*

The administrative records of President Charles A. McCallum, Jr., are now available for research. Dr. McCallum served as president of UAB after having served as the university’s vice president for Health Affairs and as dean of the School of Dentistry. McCallum served as the university’s acting president from 1986 until 1987 while President S. Richardson Hill, Jr., was on sabbatical. Dr. McCallum became the third president of UAB in April 1987 and served until September 1993.

The 158-box collection contains correspondence, minutes, reports, and printed material which document substantive matters and routine issues from across the UAB campus. Some photographs and campus ephemera and artifacts are also included. There were several major changes for UAB during McCallum’s presidency. It was McCallum who approved the initial Club Football team and he approved that team transitioning to an NCAA-level sport. The 1917 Clinic was established to treat patients with HIV and AIDS; it was the first clinic of its kind in the state. The I.M. Pei-designed Kirklin Clinic, the outpatient facility of the Health Services Foundation, was opened amid opposition from local business owners who did not wish to be dislocated for its construction. And, particularly important for archive staff, it was President McCallum who in 1992 established the UAB Archives as an official campus entity and who provided the initial funding for the new university-wide repository.

The McCallum records are available for research in the UAB Archives, located in the Lister Hill Library Building. Research is by appointment. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact University Archives at 205-934-1896 or use the Contact form available at https://library.uab.edu/locations/archives.
We are pleased to announce that the Reynolds-Finley Associates Research Fellowship program has been extended to provide opportunities for UAB faculty and students. Since 2001, the fellowship has functioned as a travel grant to bring external scholars to UAB to perform research in Historical Collections. This fellowship award of up to $2,500 to individual researchers remains active, but new provisions now allow those already at UAB to benefit as well. This new opportunity provides funding to support professional travel and conference engagement for UAB faculty and student research using the HC unit's resources. The fellowship requires the on-site use of at least one of the unit's three components, the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, Reynolds-Finley Historical Library and UAB Archives. Funding of up to $2,500 for travel expenses will be awarded on a case-by-case basis, and details of those requirements (i.e. budget of expenses) will be coordinated with the applicant as appropriate. There is no deadline for UAB fellowship applicants, as awards will be granted on a rolling basis. For more information on the application process, visit our Fellowship page at https://library.uab.edu/special-collections/fellowship.

Turning the Pages: A New Interactive Display

We are pleased to introduce our newest display, Turning the Pages (TTP). Exhibited on a 55” touchscreen kiosk located on the first floor of Lister Hill Library, TTP allows users to interactively turn the pages and learn more about materials from UAB Libraries. Flip through some of our colorful Incunabula from the pre-1500s, or get a close up view of a letter written by George Washington to his dentist. These materials and others are now available to virtually explore. This innovative platform creates a safe environment for materials, and offers a more hands on experience for users. Come check it out today!