

Archival Elements

Summer 2021 . Issue 21

100

TIME, AUGUST 31, 1953

SCIENCE

Newsletter of the Society of American Archivists Science, Technology, and Health Care Section



Inez B. Hazel, staff member, Computer Program Production, MIT Lincoln Laboratory, working with Data Matrix information, 6 November 1956. Credit: MIT Lincoln Laboratory. Story, page 4.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter From the STHC Co-Chairs, P. 1

Archives/Records 2021: Sessions of Interest, P. 2

Ask an Archivist: Seeking the Periphery, P. 3

Nora Zaldivar and Corinne Bermon , MIT Lincoln Laboratory

Community Science in the Archives of the Sterling Morton Library, P. 8

Danielle Nowak, Sterling Morton Library, the Morton Arboretum

The Wigton Heritage Center: Showcasing the Health Sciences in Nebraska, P. 12

Carrie J. Meyer, McGoogan Health Sciences Library , University of Nebraska Medical Center

***Picturing Women Inventors* Exhibition, P. 15**

Alison Oswald, American Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution

New Collecting Archive for the History of Contemporary Biology in India, P. 16

Venkat Srinivasan, Archives at the National Center for Biological Sciences

***Herbs, Maps and Medicine: An interpretive exhibition of commerce and spice*, P. 18**

Venkat Srinivasan, Archives at the National Center for Biological Sciences

Preserving Opioid Industry Documents to Protect Public Health, P. 19

Rachel Taketa, University of California, San Francisco Industry Documents Library

The NSRC's First Large-Scale Photo Preservation Project, P. 22

Mott Linn, National Security Research Center, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Classified Library Completes Large Digitization Project of Patent Collection, P. 24

Alan B. Carr, National Security Research Center, Los Alamos National Laboratory

STHC Steering Committee Members 2021-2022, P. 28

Archival Elements is the official newsletter of the Science, Technology, and Health Care Section of the Society of American Archivists, produced annually each summer.

Archival Elements Committee: Jennifer Langford (Editor), Peter Collopy, Nora Zaldivar

LETTER FROM THE STHC STEERING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Dear STHC Section Members,

We hope that you'll join us for the annual STHC meeting on Friday **July 30, 1PM-2:30PM Central**. STHC Steering Committee members Nora Zaldivar and Peter Collopy will present and lead a discussion on ways STHC archives can develop collections, policies, and practices that reflect and accommodate the diversity of our organizations. We'll also discuss the future direction of our section and how we can fulfill the stated mission of STHC to serve as a forum for members to "share problems, projects, and products that we have in common", to advocate for our member interests as a roundtable of SAA, and to engage in special projects. Please join us and share your questions, experience, and ideas on both of these topics! [Register here](#), if you haven't already.

There have been a number of changes to section leadership. In 2020, Elizabeth Shepard left the Steering Committee. Nora Zaldivar was appointed to the newsletter committee and DiAnna Hemsath, Steering Committee Member-at-Large, began serving as Web Liaison. Gabrielle Barr was elected to the Junior Co-Chair position, and Brandon Pieczko was elected as Steering Committee Member-at-Large. Todd Kosmerick, Larissa Krayner, and Amanda Wick's terms as Steering Committee Members-at-Large will conclude in September. Brandon Pieczko was elected to the Junior Co-Chair position this year. Julia Pope, Edith Escobedo, Nicole Topich, and Chiyong (Tali) Han are our newly elected Steering Committee Members-at-Large. Tonia Sutherland is our new SAA Council Liaison. Last but not least, Anna Marie Lucas will be our very first Early Career Member. We thank our departing members for their contributions, and welcome our new section leaders.

We also thank Immediate Past Chair Jennifer Ulrich for leading STHC during extraordinarily challenging times. The transition to a virtual meeting last year was successful thanks to her leadership. It was a great meeting and program!

Finally, a quick note on *Archival Elements*. There was no issue produced in 2020 due to an understandable lack of submissions. With only two entries received, it made more sense to hold those for the 2021 issue.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with ideas, suggestions, questions, or concerns. We look forward to continued collaboration and participation!

Jennifer Langford
University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Jwelch30@uthsc.edu

Gabrielle Barr
Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum,
National Institute of Health
barrgabrielle8@gmail.com

JOIN US FOR THE
2021 STHC
SECTION
MEETING!

JULY 30

1PM-2:30PM CST

A blue background with a network of white lines and dots, resembling a social or data network, with some dots highlighted in a darker blue.

ARCHIVES Together/Apart RECORDS August 2-6, 2021

SESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR STHC

On Demand Sessions Available Beginning July 26:

Research Basics for Archivists

S03 - Building Capacity and Community for
Email Archives

S04 - Collecting COVID

S05 - A Collective Journey to the Creation of Library Exhibition Best Practices

S09 - Creating Digital Access Initiatives During COVID-19

S10 - Foundations for Culturally Competent, Racially Conscious Metadata

S11 - Making Product Less Problematic: Considerations of MPLP and Conscientious
Description

S20 - Using Collections to Grapple with Institutional Histories of Discrimination

S21 - Emerging Voices in Archives

Monday August 2

Simply the Best! SAA's 2021 Awards/ 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM CT

Tuesday August 3

Build a Bridge to Stand: Making the Ask Even in Uncertain Times/ 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM CT

Wednesday August 4

Plenary 1: Opening Session Featuring Luis Argueta/ 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM CT

Thursday August 5

Plenary 2: The SAA Presidential Address/11:00 AM - 12:15 PM CT

Friday August 6

Forum on SAA DEIA/Cultural Competency Work Plan/ 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM CDT

Seeking the Periphery

In fall 2019, the MIT Lincoln Laboratory Archives was presented with the task of researching the contributions of women who worked at Lincoln in the “early days” as part of a larger effort to recognize the centennial anniversary of women’s voting rights and women of the Lab. Laboratory Archivist Nora Zaldivar asked Projects Archivist Corinne Bermon to lead the biographical research effort and due to limited resources Corinne also became the author for most of the 65 biographies written. Here at the end of the project, Nora interviews Corinne about the challenges, the discoveries, and lessons learned for record creators and Archivists.

NZ: So where did you all pull this information together from? What are the sources?

CB: It was probably one of the more labor-intensive research projects I’ve ever done. Initially I was handed a list of women who worked at the Laboratory in the 1950s and I gathered photos, publications, and projects. That was the easy part because the women to research were laid out for me. Once I started working on the 1960s, I had to start from scratch and compiled a list from the Lab organizational directories, our photo archives database, the Laboratory’s informal and formal newsletters: the Lincoln Log and the Lincoln Bulletin, Laboratory reports and publications, and individual Lab notebooks. This working document tracked the years they were employees, group changes, name changes, committee work, and publications.

There weren’t any full archival collections attributed to any of the 65 women we were working on. I started by just looking through the general primary source files for the groups they were in when they were working at the Laboratory. Starting with correspondence and memos, I was hoping to find a memo from them or to them, and I did find a few which

were great. These would give me a little more specific information about what they were doing, or what their work life was like. So basically I was hunting and pecking through a lot of different primary source boxes.

There wasn’t a whole lot to work with as far as what the women wrote. It was interesting to see that there is this mountain of correspondence to and from men and across leadership and here I was just searching to see if a woman was even cc’d to show that she was part of the effort.

But all of these sources only really gave half the picture, so I also went to outside sources like Ancestry.com, school yearbooks on the Internet Archives, newspaper archives, university archives, and straight up Googling people when I had used up all other methods. I pulled from every source I could think of because I was often finding just tidbits of information so trying to complete the story took a lot of time and a lot of sources.

Trying to tell a standardized story was definitely difficult. I really wanted to give a well-rounded history of these women. But sometimes I just had to allow myself to “fail”. If you can’t find the information,

Continued

you can't find the information. At a certain point I would just have to let it go and as a historian and archivist, I always find that disheartening.

NZ: Did you have any unanticipated challenges?

CB: Once we separated out the technical staff, it was a lot harder to find what female technicians, support staff and administrative staff worked on. In many cases they were part of a group of women. For example, computer programmers worked on programs for all sorts of projects, so it was hard or impossible to pin down their specific contributions. One useful source was the Division Quarterly Progress Reports series. In these reports, the technical staff would write up a summary describing what a particular team was doing that quarter and a lot of times they put acknowledgements at the bottom saying thank you to so and so for their programming or clerical efforts. So that was a lot of meticulous research trying to find mentions of what female technicians were doing. Unfortunately, these reports became much less detailed across all Divisions in the mid-1960s and I had to start looking for other resources. Probably

the greatest source I happened across was within the correspondence file of a group in the solid-state division that had many female technicians. In 1956, they had actually put together a chart with names of projects, the technical project lead, the technicians assigned, and a summary of what they were doing at that time. When I found that chart I was like Jackpot! Thank you! I just wish all of the groups had something like that.

One of the other big challenges was figuring out stories for women who are older but still alive. A lot of people who are in that generation are digital ghosts. Ancestry.com cannot release their information yet, and they may not have any kind of digital profile anywhere. We assume that in this day and age we can find just about anything or anyone on the internet, but that isn't true.

NZ: It's almost like you're looking for what's in the negative space, the edges of the negative space?

CB: That's a great way to put it.

NZ: In general, what do the results look like? What product are you ending up

with?

CB: Well like any historical project that is based on women's lives, it's really a mixed bag. Some of the women have these beautiful robust profiles, for, others we just have their lab

“There were a lot more women in technical roles in the 1950s and 60s that we often assume were not there.”

contributions, and there's some that just have a name and a timeline of when they were at the Laboratory and their group information. I think it shows there were a lot more women in technical roles in the 1950s and 60s that we often assume were not there. History tells us this vision of women in the mid-20th century just stayed in their separate sphere of home and didn't go to work. That may

Seeking the Periphery, Continued

have been true for a certain subset of women but it's not true for all. There were a lot of women who were working at this time. Yes, there were many in office roles and administrative roles, but this project has highlighted that there were a lot of technical women working too. So many brilliant, educated women were here and making contributions to the Lab's missions.

NZ: How did you find images for these women?

CB: I first went in and looked through our photo database. We have about 250,000 digitized images. Searching through them, I hate to admit but we have a lot of unidentified women in the collection. So trying to match existing staff photos with images of women in groups was not easy. I was able to identify a lot and was pleased with that. For women who didn't have any Lab photographs, I found maybe a high school or college yearbook photo. Worst came to worst for a couple of women, their obituary photo is the image I used because it was all I could find for them.

NZ: How will this



P201-66(13). Inez B. Hazel, staff member, Computer Program Production, working with Data Matrix information, 6 November 1956. Credit: MIT Lincoln Laboratory.

biographical information be used?

CB: I am currently working on an internal digital exhibit that will highlight these early women. It will show each Laboratory division and it will be split down by decades to be more digestible instead of a long list. It will have their biography, and photographs including a small gallery if there is more than one photo. We are planning a Laboratory celebration this August for the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote. I'm not exactly sure in the world of Covid-19, what that's going to look like

now, but their contributions will be added to whatever the laboratory is planning. I know there is a plan to place banners featuring current and historical female employees around the Lab. These may illustrate lab spaces where women worked such as programmers who worked on the TX-2 computer, or may feature quotes or stories about projects and contributions. These banners will highlight a wide variety of female employees and help current employees understand how the Laboratory has changed as they walk through the spaces.

Continued



P201-81(6). Alice Wolf detecting tracks in visual noise, 4 November 1957. Credit: MIT Lincoln Laboratory

NZ: During this kind of research, there is often 1 or 2 folks who stand out as the heroes we all need or someone who led an extraordinary life. Was there someone like that for you?

CB: Absolutely. There were several but I think the person who stood out for me most was a woman named Alice K. Wolf who worked here from 1956-1963. Alice was born in Vienna, Austria. At five years old she escaped Nazi persecution with her family and settled in Brighton, Mass. She graduated from Simmons College in 1955 with a BA in Experimental

Psychology and her very first job was here at Lincoln Laboratory. She thought that was just the coolest thing. She worked for our Psychology group which did a lot of natural language research for artificial intelligence and perceptual research. She was very proud to have worked on the Memory Test Computer for part of the experimental natural language Baseball program. Wolf and her colleague, Carol Chomsky, strived to understand how the computer could answer natural language questions about baseball such as “Who won the World Series in 1925?” This type of pioneering AI work was

Continued

Seeking the Periphery, Continued

conducted alongside other experimental computer work for the Semi-Automated Ground Environment (SAGE) program for continental air defense.

After she left Lincoln in 1963, she earned her Master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School. She served on the Cambridge City Council and then became the Mayor of Cambridge, MA in 1990. In 1996, she was elected to serve on the Massachusetts House of Representatives and in this role, was instrumental in making same gender marriage legal in Massachusetts. She ended up being gifted the title honorary lesbian by the Cambridge Lavender Alliance. She is still working, at almost 90, for Mass Advocates for Children. She is definitely a powerhouse.

I had done some oral histories with men who had worked here during the 1950s and they often described the Lab as a magical place. So I posed that question to her in our oral history pre-interview, "they said it was magical, what did you think?" And she said "Well magical sort of, but it was a lot of hard work and it was fun!" I thought it was cool that she had a bit of a different view but absolutely loved what she was doing. She made lifelong friends here, some people who actually ended up being her constituents in Cambridge too.

NZ: What about lessons learned for organizations, especially information creators? How can we intentionally develop a better portrait of everyone's contributions?

CB: Well, like any archivist I'm always saying

"Document! Document! Document Everything!" I think it's important to acknowledge that we have some superstars here but they're not islands. They are part of a team. Information creators should tell us not just what they accomplished but also who they worked with. You might not see who typed a project report, or what a specific technician did. I would love to see documentation added to a submission saying these are the people I worked with. That would make piecing together these puzzles so much easier. As an information steward it's important for the Archivist to remember to ask them too. Sometimes you get so excited about the records they are giving you that you can forget to look for what's missing or ask who else was there. I find it fascinating that staff still request project reports from the 1950s because it gives them the history of projects and technology they're currently working on. So those contributions, those acknowledgements are not going to be forgotten, we always go back.



*Photo from the
Collection of
John Hagstrom
Images. Image
credit: John
Hagstrom JMH*

COMMUNITY SCIENCE IN THE ARCHIVES OF THE STERLING MORTON LIBRARY

Danielle Nowak, Digital Assets Librarian The Morton Arboretum

The Sterling Morton Library houses the institutional archives of the Morton Arboretum, which is located in Lisle, Illinois, near Chicago. Collections in the archives include photographs, papers, and artifacts related to Joy Morton (the Arboretum's founder), his family, and the Morton Salt Company; an assortment of landscape drawings and plans (including those of O.C. Simonds and Jens Jensen); and various additional collections pertaining to the Morton Arboretum and its

staff and constituents. In recent years, a significant number of digital materials have been added to the library's collections and are housed in the library's collection management system called [ACORN](#). One such collection, which was acquired and accessioned in 2019, is the [Collection of John Hagstrom Images](#).

The project that would eventually result in this collection was initiated in 2005, when photographer John Hagstrom, a longtime Arboretum volunteer, set out with other members of the Morton Arboretum

Continued

Community Science, Continued

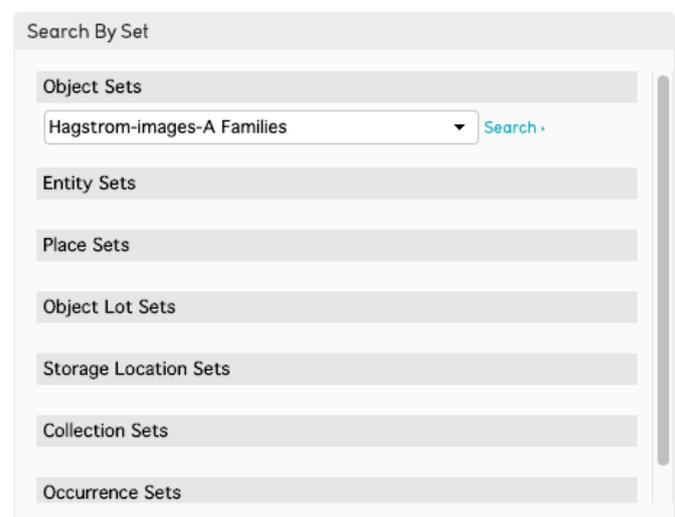
Photographic Program (MAPP) to photograph all flora associated with the Morton Arboretum. The photographs would capture the plant's total shape, outline, form, and specific parts of the plant such as branches and buds. Additionally, photographs of these plants and their parts would be taken during each season of the year. This project resulted in approximately 10,000 high-resolution photographs that are now permanently housed in the archives of the Sterling Morton Library.

While ACORN already had a plethora of plant images prior to the acquisition of this collection, these particular photographs added a new layer of breadth to the resources we have available to our users. Having close-up views of plants and their specific parts is a useful tool for our researchers, educators, and marketing department. Because of the value that this collection adds to ACORN and the potential benefits it could bring to our users, we decided to make cataloging this collection and making it publicly accessible one of our priorities for 2020.

Since we are a small staff of three librarians, we rely on community scientists to assist us in cataloging the multitude of plant images. The Arboretum has a community of over 1000 volunteers, many with plant expertise, which gave us a huge advantage in finding people willing to dedicate their skills and time to this project. Another advantage that we have had in making this cataloging project come to life is that there was interest in John's photographs before the library had acquired them. Before the archives became the permanent home for the photographs, John ran (and still runs) a very successful Flickr account, where his images have been seen by users from all over the world. Additionally, since John has been a volunteer

with the Arboretum for so long, the photographs taken through MAPP had been a discussion point within the Arboretum's community of volunteers for years.

About three months after we acquired and accessioned the collection, we were able to recruit and train five community scientists to begin cataloging the images. The role of the community scientists in cataloging the images is to identify the plant in the image (if it is not already identified in its file name), identify the plant part depicted, and detail any additional information that may be useful for a searcher to know such as plant color or season. To document their findings, we created a basic-level cataloger account for each of them through CollectiveAccess. Once they have logged into their account, they will see the set of images that were assigned to them.



Screenshot of the CollectiveAccess image sets assigned to volunteer catalogers.

After searching their set to identify where they need to begin, they select a record and begin editing directly within the record. For each record, they are responsible for creating a title, which is the plant's scientific name with its

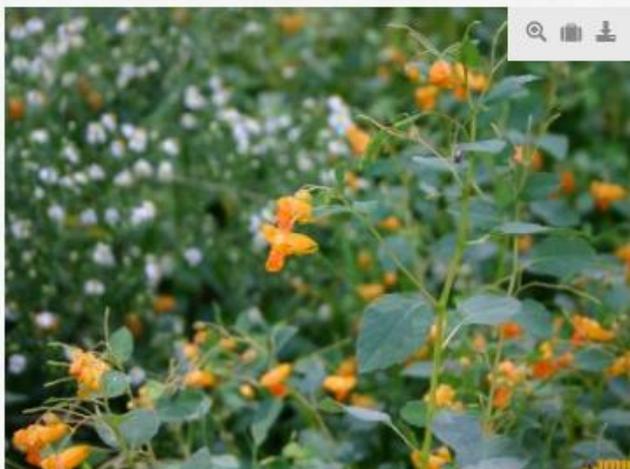
Continued

Community Science, Continued

common name in parentheses, followed by the plant part depicted. After creating the title, they move on to the description. In the description, the volunteer repeats the information from the title but adds details that assist in making the image more accessible and identifiable. This includes more information on what is literally depicted in the image, such as the flower color, if any insects are present, etc. After completing the description, the volunteer marks that the record has been edited and is ready for additional metadata to be added (which is completed by a library staff member) and for review.

While the initiation of this project has been successful overall, this success has not come without its fair share of challenges. Creating a standardization process for plant names and parts has been an evolving operation. While the Arboretum has a standardized list of accepted plant names that we follow, not all of the plants depicted in the photographs are on the list. This complicates the standardization process as various sources, such as the USDA PLANTS database and the Missouri Botanic Garden Plant Finder, may have different common names for the same plant. Additionally, going down the rabbit hole of plant parts can be convoluted

Continued



➔ SHARE

COPYRIGHT

©John Hagstrom

Copyright restrictions applying to use or reproduction of this image are available from the Sterling Morton Library, The Morton Arboretum. For more information, please visit our **ABOUT** section or complete and submit this form.

Hagstrom, John

Impatiens capensis (orange jewelweed), flowers

IDENTIFIER

3.71412

FORMAT

digital color photograph

DIGITIZATION STATUS

Born digital

DIMENSIONS

(Item)

TYPE

Photographic image

DATE CREATED

2005 - 2012

DESCRIPTION

Impatiens capensis (orange jewelweed) yellow-orange flower, green leaves, two insects, white flowers in the background

SUBJECT - KEYWORDS AND LC HEADINGS

Balsaminaceae

Flowers, pistil

Impatiens capensis Meerb. (orange jewelweed)

RELATED COLLECTIONS

Impatiens

Collection of John Hagstrom Images

Detail of metadata in an ACORN entry.

Community Science, Continued

when trying to describe what is specifically depicted in an image and then assigning keywords to that image's record. To accommodate this challenge, we are creating a master list of keywords and plant names as we go. It is still a work in progress, but it has been helpful in giving us an idea of how specific to get in naming the parts depicted.

The collaboration between our community scientists and library staff has been instrumental in getting the cataloging of this

collection off the ground. Community scientists' ability to successfully identify plants and plant parts has been essential in making the records and the images accurate and accessible. While there are still thousands of images left to be catalogued, we have completed 1500 in a four-month time span. Seeing the progress made thus far has been a source of motivation for all participants, and we are truly grateful to our community for all they have offered on this project.



Image from the Collection of John Hagstrom Images. Image credit: John Hagstrom.

THE WIGTON HERITAGE CENTER

Showcasing the Health Sciences in Nebraska



Wigton Heritage Center Atrium enclosing the University Hospital façade and interpretative text of the hospital's history. Photo credit: Kent Sievers

Carrie J. Meyer, Head, Special Collections and Archives, McGoogan Health Sciences Library, University of Nebraska Medical Center

On June 29th, the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) unveiled a new facility designed to memorialize the med center's unique history, educate about the rich and diverse history of the health sciences in the state of Nebraska, and serve as a campus welcome center.

The multi-level, 13,000-square-foot facility includes 11 gallery exhibitions and 10

interactive displays that allow the Leon S. McGoogan Health Sciences Library staff to showcase prized collections. University Hospital's historic façade and iconic columns are enclosed within an atrium that serves as a welcoming space for alumni, visitors, new and prospective students, and others.

On three floors of the Wigton Heritage Center are exhibits that serve as a catalyst for understanding, experiencing, and appreciating UNMC's history and other Nebraska health professionals. Artifacts and images are drawn from the McGoogan's Special Collections

Continued

Wigton Heritage Center, Continued



Wigton Heritage Center Atrium enclosing the University Hospital façade and interpretative text of the hospital's history. Photo credit: Kent Sievers

and Archives, the UNMC Colleges of Nursing and Dentistry, and cultural institutions across the state. Three additional exhibits will open in November 2021. Interactive displays throughout the Wigton Heritage Center allow visitors to

view campus images and biographical information, selections from the library's rare book collection, and listen to oral histories from past UNMC leaders.



College of Dentistry exhibition featuring over 100 objects from 1870s-1880s dental offices. Photo credit: Kent Sievers



Top and bottom: Interactive screens featuring UNMC's history, honors and awards winners, and global healthcare initiatives. Photo credit: Kent Sievers





Image credit: National Museum of American History

Picturing Women Inventors Exhibition

National Museum of American History

Alison Oswald, Archivist, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

If you had to name an inventor, would it be a woman? Or did you first think of a man like Thomas Edison or Alexander Graham Bell? Women haven't always had equal opportunities to be inventors, or received as much recognition. But throughout American history, women with diverse backgrounds and interests created inventions that change our lives every day.

Presented in bold wall murals, with text in English and Spanish, *Picturing Women Inventors* features historic and contemporary women inventors—women of color, immigrant women, women with disabilities, women from the early 20th century to contemporary women, women of various ages, and women working in engineering, science, sports, household technologies, childcare, computing, medicine, and more. The exhibition is part of the Lemelson Center's larger effort to focus research and outreach on recovering the stories of underrepresented inventors. *Picturing Women Inventors* was installed during the museum's closure in 2020 and opened to visitors in a limited capacity in May 2021.

Picturing Women Inventors Poster Exhibition

Picturing Women Inventors is a series of eight posters that explores the inventions of 19 highly accomplished American women. Astronauts, computer pioneers, and businesswomen join athletes, engineers, and even teenagers in this remarkable group of inventors. Ideal for classrooms or other learning environments, the poster exhibition also comes with curriculum material developed by Smithsonian educators at the Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation.

The onsite exhibition and poster exhibition is made possible thanks to a collaboration with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and with the support of Lyda Hill Philanthropies IF/THEN Initiative and Ericsson.

NEW COLLECTING ARCHIVE FOR THE HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY BIOLOGY IN INDIA

Venkat Srinivasan, Archivist, Archives at the National Center for Biological Sciences



Entrance to the new Archives at NCBS

The [Archives at the National Center for Biological Sciences](#)

is a space for institutional records and is a collecting public archive for the history of contemporary biology in India. It opened in February 2019 with [18 collections](#). The holdings are in various forms, ranging from manuscripts to negatives to photographs, books, fine art, audio recordings, scientific equipment, letters, field and lab notes. In addition to being a research center and making continued efforts in expanding its collections, the Archives at

NCBS has three main objectives going forward: continuing to build up the archive as a space to

strengthen the commons, a focus on education through archival material, and to build a broader consortium of science archives with a discovery layer for the public to find, describe and share archival material and stories. Most of our processed collections are digitized though not online. We look forward to receiving visitors at the Archives! But if you can't make it here, we are open to research queries via email [archives@ncbs.res.in] and, in many cases, sending digitized material through a shared online drive.



Processing area at the Archives at NCBS.

Continued

Biology Archives, Continued



More views of the new NCBS Archives. Top L: entrance, Top R: processed collection. Middle L: corridor, Middle R: reading room. Bottom L: Another view of the reading room Bottom R: stacks





HERBS, MAPS AND MEDICINE: An interpretive exhibition of commerce and spice

Venkat Srinivasan, Archivist, Archives at the National Center for Biological Sciences

The exhibition, which was on display from February 2020 to September 2020 at the Archives at the National Center for Biological Sciences in Bangalore, India, drew on the digital exhibition [The Indian Spice Trade: In Search for Knowledge and Riches](#) by Dr. Anna Spudich, a scientist/curator/storyteller.

The exhibition comes with a new interpretation with the physical space constructed as an interactive marketplace of knowledge. The design is led by Abhishek Ray and his group, the Matrika Design Collaborative from Mumbai.



Top: A view of the exhibition. Bottom L: an image from the online exhibition. Bottom R: Another view of the exhibition.



Preserving Opioid Industry Documents to Protect Public Health

Rachel Taketa, Processing and Reference Archivist
Industry Documents Library, University of California San Francisco

In March 2021 the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)'s Industry Documents Library (IDL) launched a joint project with Johns Hopkins University to collect and make available opioid industry documents publicly disclosed from recent judgements, settlements, and lawsuits. These lawsuits argue that

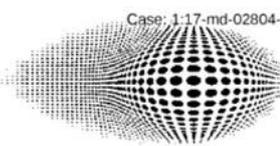
disregarded the significant risks to health, leading to a national opioid epidemic.

The [UCSF Industry Documents Library](#) began 20 years ago as a digital library for documents released in historic tobacco litigation. Over the last two decades it has grown to 15 million documents, including

bring a large corpus of internal corporate documents together to allow for investigation into what companies knew, when they knew it, how they built marketing and advertising strategies, and the kinds of tactics they used to delay regulations and legislation meant to protect the public's health. The Truth Tobacco Industry Documents archive has supported [more than 1,000 publications](#) and provided critical evidence for legislators and advocates focused on improving policies around tobacco and health.

The Opioid Industry Documents Archive currently contains 4,753 documents in six collections and is growing every month. The documents include emails, memos, presentations, sales reports, budgets, audit reports, Drug Enforcement Administration briefings, meeting agendas and minutes, expert witness

Case: 1:17-md-02804-DAP Doc #: 2391-12 Filed: 08/15/19 3 of 8. PageID #: 396097



Accomplishments
Imagine the Possibilities
Pain Coalition

3 Sub-Teams charged with creating message, plans and products to shape our future in pain management

- ✓ Media Outreach - TARGETS: YOUTH, VETERANS, PUBLIC
- ✓ Education - MEDICAL SCHOOL CURRICULA, QUICK GUIDES
- ✓ Policy/Advocacy
 - Peer-review PUBLICATION in Health Policy Journal
 - Message: CHRONIC PAIN AS PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM, CHRONIC PAIN IS MULTI-CONTEXTUAL
 - Outputs: 1 page pain policy position statements, Graphics

Realistic and achievable assets that will yield measureable outcomes and positive environmental changes

Presentation by an industry-backed Pain Coalition to Janssen Pharma on messaging and marketing outreach. 2011. *National Prescription Opiate Litigation Documents*.

opioid manufacturers and distributors pursued manipulative and misleading marketing strategies, cast doubt on the addictiveness of their drugs, and

materials from not only tobacco, but drug, chemical, food, and fossil fuel industries. Collecting and making available materials from litigation is a way to

Continued

How Many Patients Can You Get



More Patients = More \$\$\$!

# Patients	Bonus Payout in Q2
10	\$7,096
20	\$14,192
30	\$21,288
40	\$28,384
50	\$35,480

Internal sales rep bonus plan presentation. 2012. *Insys Litigation Documents*.

Opioid Industry, Continued

reports, videos, and depositions of drug company executives.

The newest collection is a batch of nearly 250,000 documents produced by opioid manufacturer Insys Therapeutics during state and federal investigation [which led to criminal charges and bankruptcy](#).

This is the first large collection of what may potentially be millions of documents released from opioid litigation.

The IDL is no stranger to

processing and preserving very large digital collections, but we are breaking new ground with this acquisition. The size of this single collection has challenged our current workflows and pushed us to develop new processes around metadata creation and protection of sensitive information such as Protected Health Information (PHI) and online Personally Identifiable Information (PII). Unlike many archives, our collections are only available online

(we do not have any paper copies) and as a result of the discovery process in litigation the documents are described at the item level. Every document is processed with Optical Character Recognition (OCR) to extract the text necessary to allow full-text search along with metadata search. IDL archivists and software developers have a hand in every part of this process from start to finish, including manual redaction of any documents with identified PII. With millions

UCSF ALL INDUSTRIES TOBACCO CHEMICAL DRUG FOOD FOSSIL FUEL My Library

DRUG INDUSTRY DOCUMENTS Blog About Bibliography Research Tools Help Collections

Industry Documents Library > Drug Industry Documents > Collections

Drug Collections

- Actos Litigation Documents
- Blood Products Litigation Documents
- Celexa and Lexapro Litigation Doc...
- Cochrane Review: Neuraminidase In...
- Cymbalta Litigation Documents
- Insys Litigation Documents
- KHN OxyContin Collection
- Kentucky Opioid Litigation Docume...
- Neurotin Litigation Documents
- Norvir Anti-Trust Litigation Docu...
- National Prescription Opiate Lit...
- Oklahoma Opioid Litigation Docume...
- Opioid Documents Collection
- Paxil Litigation Documents
- Physician Payments Collection
- Pinnacle Litigation Documents
- POGO Investigation on Ghostarin...

UCSF University of California San Francisco

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

OPIOID INDUSTRY DOCUMENTS ARCHIVE [4,753 Documents](#)

Welcome to the **Opioid Industry Documents Archive**, a collaboration between the [University of California, San Francisco](#) and [Johns Hopkins University](#).

The opioid epidemic is the worst drug epidemic in our nation's history, and nothing is more important to those who have been impacted than the truth – full transparency regarding how the epidemic occurred and how further harms can be abated. There are many other pressing questions as well, with answers that lie within documents from government litigation against pharmaceutical companies, including opioid manufacturers and distributors, as well as litigation taking place in federal court on behalf of thousands of cities and counties in the United States.

These documents have been publicly released through state and federal investigations, settlement agreements, and other proceedings, including a lawsuit [filed by The Washington Post and the Charleston Gazette](#). The documents include emails, memos, presentations, sales reports, budgets, audit reports, Drug Enforcement Administration briefings, meeting agendas and minutes, expert witness reports, and depositions of drug company executives. The archive serves as a living repository of information that can be used to learn from the opioid epidemic so as to improve and safeguard public policy and public health, and to ensure that the opioid-related harms that have taken place never occur again.

Search the Opioid Documents Collection:

("opioids documents collection")

UCSF Library Home Privacy Policy Copyright & Fair Use Tutorial Videos Ask Us Donate SUPPORT US Search History Bookmarks

Landing page of the UCSF Opioid Industry Documents Archive

Opioid Industry, Continued of documents, there is no way to read every file as it passes through our process, so we are investigating new workflows and ways to leverage machine learning and Natural Language Processing (NLP).

Another challenge is processing the 150,000 emails in native format which are part of the Insys collection. Most of the documents in IDL are in PDF format, which is the format our workflows and online display tools are built around. We are looking to learn from archives colleagues working in email preservation about best practices and available tools for file format conversion and redaction at scale.

This initial work to investigate new tools, apply new workflows and craft new policies around PHI/PII will help us to expand our capacity and collect potentially millions of opioid documents as they are publicly disclosed from litigation.

The new Opioid Industry Documents Archive is freely available to anyone who is interested in investigating the activities that have led to the devastating opioid epidemic, which has now contributed to the deaths of over 500,000 people in the United States. Similar to the groundbreaking UCSF Truth Tobacco Industry Documents archive, this new archive was launched

in the hope that shining a bright light on the internal workings of these drug companies will foster scientific and public health discoveries that shape safer drug policy in the U.S. and around the world.

The Opioid Industry Documents Archive can be accessed at: <https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/drug/collections/opioids/>

THE NSRC'S FIRST LARGE-SCALE PHOTO PRESERVATION PROJECT

If a picture is worth a thousand words, a recent large-scale restoration project yielded about 1.4 million – not to mention a lot of refreshed faces.

Mott Linn, Chief Librarian, National Security Research Center, Los Alamos National Laboratory

The badge photos of over 1,400 of the Los Alamos National Laboratory's Manhattan Project workers – including our most-famous scientists J. Robert Oppenheimer, Emilio Segrè and others – had 75-plus years of built-up grime on them. Adhesive tape residue, bits of mounting materials, and environmental filth, like dust, had caused many of these historic images to discolor. So, the Lab's [National Security Research Center](#) executed its first large-scale restoration project to repair and further preserve these valuable pieces of Los

Alamos history. Had the restoration work not been performed, the badge photos would have continued to deteriorate. The photos are part of the collections in the NSRC, which is the Lab's classified library. However, the NSRC houses many unclassified pieces of the Lab's history, which are also curated by its team of specialists.

"These photos are an important part of the Lab's past," said NSRC Senior Historian Alan Carr. "The Manhattan Project was the start of the Lab we know today. Plus, that workforce



Before and after: Nobel Prize-winning physicist Emilio Segrè's badge photo.

Continued

NSRC Photos, continued

workforce was the first to dedicate themselves to our national security mission.”

NSRC Director Riz Ali added, “This project is just one example of our preservation work. The NSRC has millions of materials in almost every medium imaginable, so whether it’s pictures of staff, films of test shots or blueprints of engineering drawings, we’re working to ensure the Lab’s legacy materials are accessible now and always.”

Restoring, preserving

The badge photos were taken in batches to



Before and after: Physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer’s badge.

a conservator, Roger Joyce, in Santa Fe. Joyce cleaned each photo, removed stains, and placed them in protective archival sleeves. It takes anywhere from about 10 to 30 minutes to clean each badge photo, most of which are about 1-and-a-half-inches by 1 inch.

The badge photo that was most transformed was of Emilio Segrè, the Nobel Prize-winning physicist and Manhattan Project Group Leader. Part of Segrè’s forehead was torn off and stuck to a piece of tape. Joyce

repair it to its near-original state. The badge photos will now be protected indefinitely from future damage.

High standards, proven protocol

This photo restoration project will serve as a model going forward for other valuable materials that may need to be restored, preserved and used by the Lab, Ali said. The NSRC’s houses the world’s most comprehensive collection of nuclear weapons and national security materials dating back to the Manhattan Project. The



tens of millions of materials are in a variety of media, including microfiche, microfilm, video, cassettes, and notebooks; staff makes them accessible to Lab staff in support of their mission work.

“We want to ensure our history doesn’t literally disappear,” Ali said, “be it badges photos or weapons data.”

Meanwhile, the next time you see Segrè, Oppenheimer, or others from the original staff, they will look better than they have in decades.

CLASSIFIED LIBRARY COMPLETES LARGE DIGITIZATION PROJECT OF PATENT COLLECTION

Now more scientists can access earliest weapons records

Alan B. Carr, Senior Historian, National Security Research Center, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Many of us regularly enjoy the online resources provided by the [National Security Research Center](#)

(NSRC), which is the Lab's classified library. However, you may not be aware of all the work that goes on behind the scenes to digitize articles, reports, photographs, and correspondence. This process not only preserves documents, many of which date back to the Manhattan Project era, but also ensures they are searchable and accessible for today's national security work.

You also may not be aware that a vast majority of the Laboratory's information holdings have not yet been digitized. And by vast majority, I mean perhaps 90% of the millions of holdings in the NSRC is only available in hard copy.

But recently, the NSRC team successfully completed the digitization of one of my favorite collections: the Patent Collection. These patents formally record the intellectual foundation of the Weapons Program, and they record the



Lenny Martinez, a digitizer in the National Security Research Center (NSRC), recently completed scanning the Lab's Patent Collection. This collection contains more than 5,300 documents, including official forms, handwritten notes and drawings related to the development of the first nuclear weapons. Today's researchers rely on these materials for their national security work.

Laboratory's unsurpassed history of innovation. The Patent Collection is made up of 25 patents, which is more than 5,300 mostly-classified paper documents from 1944 - 1946, including official forms, handwritten notes, and drawings. This collection shows Los Alamos has an unsurpassed – and legally-documented – history of technical innovation in the nuclear weapons field. When consulting the patents, today's researchers can see the technology evolve by reading

the notes of the inventors. Chris C'de Baca, Group Leader for Weapons Research Services - Secure Information Services, who manages the NSRC, said: "The Patent Collection is one of countless examples in the NSRC that is rare, historical, interesting, and contains information that is pertinent to the present and future mission of the Laboratory." I completely agree.

Patents offer insight into early weapons development

Continued

NSRC Patents, continued

It comes as a surprise to many that early nuclear weapons designs were patented (feel free to insert your lawsuit joke here.), but they were. During the 1940s, this was a way for the U.S. government to try to control atomic energy ([read more from Historian Alex Wellerstein](#)).

Today, the NSRC owns many of the originals and this truly unique collection is regularly accessed by Lab researchers. For instance, questions pertaining to the development of thermonuclear weapons,

Mark Chadwick said, “I think the process whereby we reconstruct the history of who gets credit for what is helped greatly by these patents.” As I’ve reviewed the patents, I’ve discovered that Manhattan Project era (1939 - 1946) scientists devised ideas for nuclear weapons that would not find their way into stockpiled designs until years later. It’s also interesting to ponder what the Los Alamos wartime atomic spy and physicist Klaus Fuchs may have passed along to the

the NSRC collections are chosen for digitization. “Before we begin digitizing a collection we take into account customer value, deterioration risk, collection size and digitization complexity,” she said. Nanette further explains, “We then assign skilled archivist-digitizers who have demonstrated knowledge of equipment operation, archival standards, and digitization processes for the collection media type.” In the case of the Patent Collection, the skilled digitizer was Lenny Martinez, who has worked as a LANL illustrator and also can croon like nobody’s business. Throughout the digitization process, Lenny worked closely with the NSRC’s Lead Archivist Danny Alcazar. Partnering with an experienced archivist is essential to the process, considering the delicate and priceless nature of the patent documents. As Danny informed me: “Technically, every time an image is exposed to bright light, a small amount of damage occurs. For this reason, it was critical to scan the documents with the highest attention to detail to both preserve the documents and to have enduring digital quality.” And for those of you



Danny Alcazar is the lead archivist in the National Security Research Center and works to ensure legacy weapons-related information is preserved and accessible for researchers. Lab scientists regularly access this information for today’s work.

commonly called hydrogen bombs or H-bombs, is still debated in the open literature and the original patent documentation helps offer insight into that important and fascinating history. Weapons Physics (ALDX) Chief Scientist

Soviet Union, considering he is named as an inventor on some of the patents.

Preservation through digitization

I asked Nanette Mayfield, who oversees the NSRC’s digitizers, how the materials in

NSRC Patents, continued

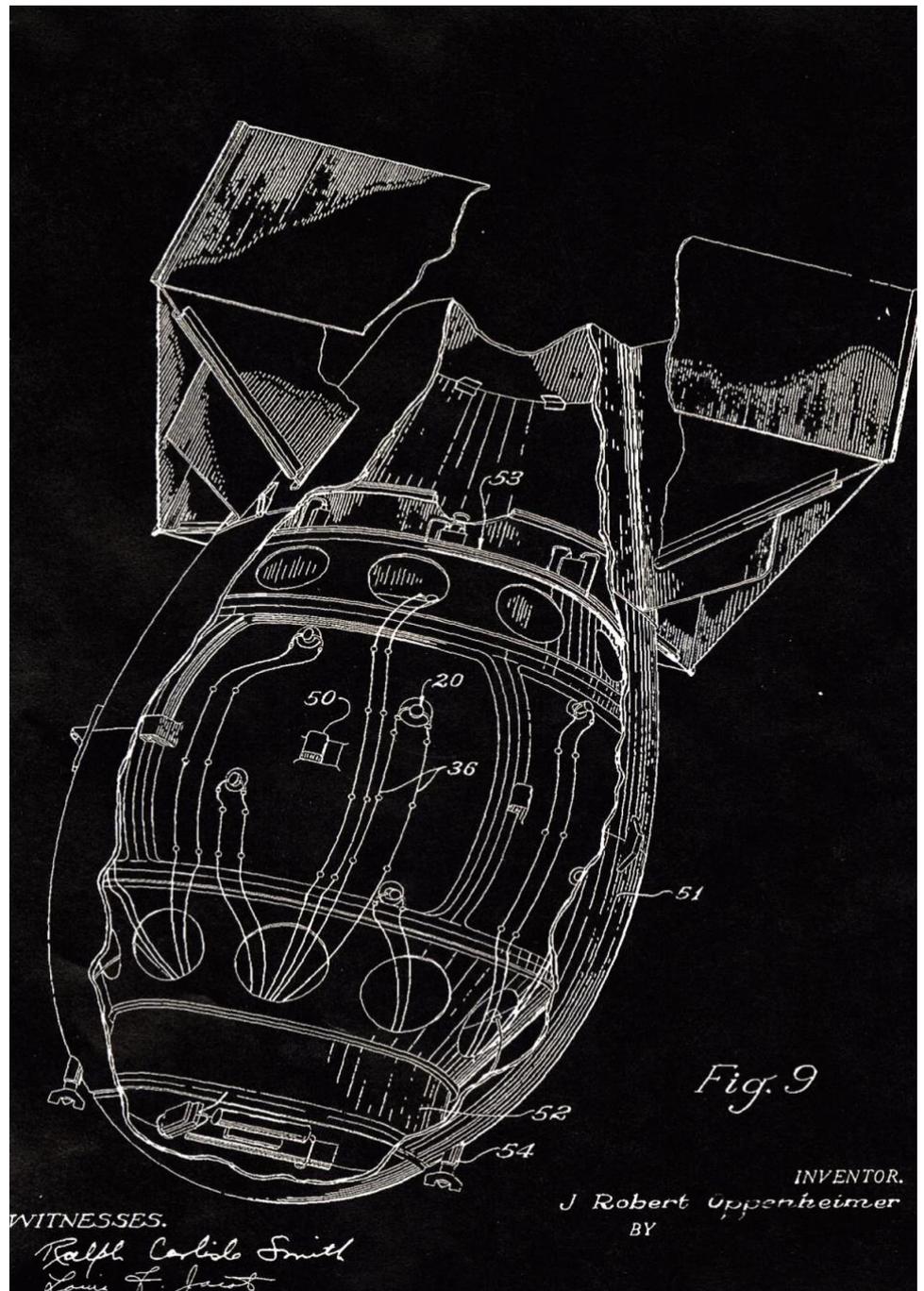
who have experienced the horrors of working with old microfiche scans, worry not: at the NSRC, quality is of paramount importance. It takes a steady hand and absolute focus to work with these documents. Put another way: wouldn't you be nervous if your job was to scan the U.S. Constitution, the Magna Carta or a signed portrait of Michael Bolton?

I asked Lenny to tell me a little bit more about the job: "Well, I was very excited knowing that I was going to be working on a special historical assignment. It took longer to complete because I had to place one document at a time on the flatbed scanner in order to prevent documents from tearing or being damaged since the paper is quite old." Auto feed on the Xerox machine? Not at the NSRC. Each page may require removing staples from onion skin paper, recalibrating the scanner to ensure a faithful reproduction of the original record, or developing a strategy to scan an irregularly sized document. It's a laborious task, but just another day at the office for Lenny and Danny.

Accessing Critical Information
Now that the scanning is

complete, what happens next? The patents are searchable and accessible via our classified digital repository called the Online Vault. Tom Kunkle, a retired LANL

physicist who has worked with the original patents, was excited to hear about the collection's completed digitization as well as what this means for researchers. "The



This now-unclassified drawing of the Fat Man implosion weapon is part of its patent application, which lists Lab Director J. Robert Oppenheimer as the inventor. The application is one of 25 from 1944 - 1946 that are part of the Patent Collection in the National Security Research Center, the Lab's classified library. The collection was recently digitized and is now accessible electronically to LANL researchers for today's national security work.

Continued

NSRC Patents, continued
scanned patent collection will permit an expanded technical audience for these early concepts and creations, and allow better appreciation of the paths taken.”

As for the original documents, the patents will continue to be maintained in compliance with the highest industry standards in the NSRC.

And what can you expect in the future from LANL’s classified library? The NSRC will of course continue digitizing collections critical for today’s mission work. NSRC Director Riz Ali said, “For the Lab’s technical staff, digitization projects like the Patent Collection allow an even clearer picture of early weapons work. As a partner to weapons scientists and engineers, we’ll continue our efforts to provide them with the assistance they need to be successful.”

RECEIPT FOR CLASSIFIED MATERIAL

Date 16 May 1944

TO: Mr. J.F. Serdyke

RE: Receipt of CLASSIFIED Material.

Original to be signed personally by the recipient and returned to the sender.
Duplicate to be retained by the recipient addressed.
Triplicate retained by sender for suspense file.

I have personally received from (sender) Capt. R.G. Smith

P. O. Box 1688, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

the CLASSIFIED material as identified below. I assume full responsibility for the safe handling, storage, and transmittal elsewhere of this material in accordance with existing regulations of the U.S.R.D. governing the handling of CLASSIFIED material. The CLASSIFIED material, including inclosures and attachments, is identified as follows: (In identifying CLASSIFIED material avoid any reference which might cause the receipt form to become CLASSIFIED):

CLASS (Secret, Confidential)	DESCRIPTION Nature* (Letter, Report, etc.)	FROM	ADDRESSED TO	DATED
Secret	3 sheets of drawings S-1214	RCS	JIS	16 May 44

*BO: signed original
CC: carbon copy
PC: photostat copy
TC: typed copy

William White (signature)
16 May 44 (date)

(Register Number)

209 1330

This unclassified document is part of the Lab’s classified Patent Collection related to the Little Boy weapon drawings from 1944, when Los Alamos was a top-secret lab racing to create the world’s first atomic bombs and help end World War II. These patents, which are part of the collections in the National Security Research Center, record the intellectual foundation of the Lab’s Weapons Program and reiterate the Laboratory’s history of innovation.

STHC STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2021-2022

<u>Gabrielle Barr</u>	Senior Co-Chair	National Institutes of Health
<u>Brandon Pieczko</u>	Junior Co-Chair	Indiana University
<u>Jennifer Langford</u>	Immediate Past Chair	University of Tennessee Health Science Center
<u>Peter Collopy</u>	Newsletter Committee	California Institute of Technology Archives
<u>Nora Zaldivar</u>	Newsletter Committee	MIT Lincoln Laboratory
<u>DiAnna Hemsath</u>	Web Liaison	University of Nebraska Medical Center
<u>Edith Escobedo</u>	Member-at-Large	University of California San Francisco
<u>Chiyong (Tali) Han</u>	Member-at-Large	Medical Center Archives, New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine
<u>Julia Pope</u>	Member-at-Large	Conrad R. Lam Archives - Henry Ford Health System
<u>Nicole Topich</u>	Member-at-Large	Weill Cornell Medical College - Oskar Diethelm Library
<u>Anna Marie Lucas</u>	Early Career Member	The Pennsylvania State University Applied Research Laboratory
<u>Tonia Sutherland</u>	Council Liaison	University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
<u>Felicia Owens</u>	Staff Liaison	Society of American Archivists

The Science, Technology and Health Care Section is an interest group within the Society of American Archivists. The STHC Section provides a forum for archivists with interests or holdings in science, technology, and health care, presenting opportunities to exchange information, solve problems, and share successes. STHC is a forum for archivists working at institutions in the natural and social sciences, technology, and the health sciences. STHC provides a means for its members to share problems, projects, and products that they have in common.

STHC is a roundtable within the Society of American Archivists (SAA). As such, STHC serves as an advocate for its members interests, provides avenues of communication, and engages in special projects.

Like all SAA roundtables, STHC is informally governed. STHC has two co-chairs and a Steering Committee, all of whom are listed in the membership section.